

# Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Vol. 24

April 1919

No. 4

## The King's English and the Librarian's\*

Katharine P. Loring, trustee, Public library, Beverly, Mass.

The title is misleading, as it may be understood to imply a contrast, whereas the object of this address is to induce the librarians to make the King's English their own and to influence others to value it.

The earliest mention of the "King's English" that I have found, is in the first act of the "Merry wives of Windsor," where Mrs Quickly finding the roysterers in her master's house says, if he finds you here "there will be the old abusing of God's patience and the King's English." From this use of the phrase by an uneducated person it is probable that it was a well-known saying. Also, this play was written by command of Queen Elizabeth. If Shakespeare had invented the phrase it would have been without doubt "the Queen's English," as the poet never missed an occasion to flatter his royal mistress. Perhaps "Queen's English" it ought to be, for the periods of its growth and glory are the reigns of Queens Elizabeth, Anne and Victoria.

English is the richest of all languages, owing to its power of assimilation. Beginning with the speech of the Angles and Saxons in the north of Germany, words of the British were

added when their island was conquered and they were swept out of existence. Celts there were in Scotland and Ireland; some of their words were adopted. The curious thing is that no words of the Romans, except the names of places, seem to have survived, tho roads and buildings did, leading to the conclusion that they used the language of the conquered peoples, thus making them the more loyal citizens. The invading Danes brought Scandinavian words in large number, but the great change in the language was made by the Normans who brought French and words derived from the Latin.

The Normans became the rulers of the kingdom and the nobility. When the farmer sold his sheep and it was cooked for the gentleman's table it became *mouton*, presently mutton; so calf, thru *veau*, became veal; ox, *boeuf*, beef; timber or wood, *planche*, plank; and so on, making this language rich in synonyms. It is estimated that about one third of the English speech is due to the Normans.

For some time probably the words of the one class were not well understood by the other, hence two words were used to express the same thought. This is especially the case in the "Book of Common Prayer," where we have: "to acknowledge and confess our mani-

\*Given at the mid-winter meeting of the Massachusetts library club.

fold sins and wickedness, and that we should not dissemble or cloke them" . . . "but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent and obedient heart." "When we assemble and meet together"; "to ask those things which are requisite and necessary." "We have erred and strayed," and many others.

There are instances in other books of the time, but this a book to be used by all persons is most striking.

Since that period, words from the speech of all peoples with whom the English have had to do have become part of the language; from the Arabic, most of those beginning with "al," which is one form of "el," the definite article; alcohol, algebra, alchemy, and by process of adaptation to pronunciation, artichoke, hazard. We have also in common use, words from the Hebrew, Persian, Chinese, Hindustani, Malay, Indian, while the dead languages, Latin and Greek, thru translation and combination, furnish most of our technical and scientific names for things, such as the Greeks and Latins never knew, telephone, telegram, sociology, aviation (avis a bird), aeronautics.

Slang has contributed its share; "a bore" was slang in Queen Anne's time; a "nice young man" was a very inferior being fifty years ago to the "nice man" of today. And of slang I would say, that used as and for what it is, it has its value, it is often artistic. But used carelessly, ignorantly and when one is supposed to be speaking properly, it is an abomination. It hurts one's feelings to hear a well educated, well dressed lady, selling Liberty Bonds (a most worthy deed) say, "I know there is a kick coming, but I want you to forget it, to buck up and put this thing over."

A circus is a well known and proper thing, but how is this? "That party last night was some circus, the eats were fine, the girls regular peaches, but the music was fierce." Such sentences are common in the conversation of even college men of the day, without the faintest idea that they are not good English. Do you remember the young

man who was asked by his hostess how he found the supper at her party; he answered: "First rate, what there is of it; I mean, there is plenty of it, such as it is." His intention was polite, it was only his usual mode of expression that led him astray.

In all adaptations and changes English as a living power has gone on, throwing aside cases, genders, irregularities in words, harshness in the pronunciation of consonants and length in that of vowels, until we have almost no grammar to learn, no declensions, only simple conjugations. All the more therefore should we preserve the grammar we have. Why not refrain from saying "I can't hardly do it," when I mean "it is with difficulty that I *can* do it"? "Quite sufficient," "He don't," used by many who would not dream of saying "He do not."

When I am called up by the telephone operator and am asked to call Miss L., I say, "I am she." "Please call Miss L." "It is I, here." "Will you please call Miss L." Then I am forced to answer, "It's me"; and all is well.

Then there are the forms usually adopted by those who wish to be more than usually elegant in diction, whose invitations are somewhat as follows: "Will you not dine with us this evening? It will give my husband and myself much pleasure to see you." The lady wants to convey an idea which plainly expressed is: "Will you dine with us . . . it will give my husband and me." *Myself* is an intensive pronoun in the nominative case and cannot possibly be used for me. Do not be like the boy whose mother said, "Why do you tell your dog 'I will learn you to set up' when you know that is not grammar?" He answered, "I cannot waste grammar on a dog."

In a book written on the "best use" of English, I find "when you *talk* English." This is a very common and very annoying mistake. To *talk* is to "convey thought by means of the spoken word"; to speak is to utter the word in one way or another. One may talk

nonsense, or may talk in French, one speaks French or English, one does not speak nonsense. The words mean entirely different things.

There are two nouns, good in themselves, which are used as verbs atrociously, no less, and they are used freely by persons who ought to know better. They are "to loan" and "to donate." After expressing my feelings to you last winter, as to "loan," I received several letters as well as messages, saying that to loan "is in the dictionary and it must be all right." I was on the point of making an apology for being dogmatic tho unconvincing, when it occurred to me, this morning, to look up the word in the Century dictionary, where I find: Loan, v. intrs. from the older form to lend. (USE OBJECTIONABLE, rarely found in Great Britain.) (The capitals are mine.) So with to "donate"; the Century gives that as "used in the U. S." We are all good Americans, but do let us insist on the use of good English in speech and books.

And here is our great opportunity, librarians and trustees; choose books written well; it will limit the choice, and for the sake of the contents sometimes we have to buy books which are not well written.

The use of nouns as verbs, or of making nouns of adjectives and past participles has much to do with the construction of a patois or derived lan-

guage; it is easily observable in Mexican Spanish and is found in the Venetian form of Italian.

Pronunciation and enunciation ought also to be regarded. We all delight in dialect, as in the sayings of Uncle Remus; but it spoils a language, to use Br'er for brother, "huccum" for "why," that being the careless use of "how comes it," a charming old English phrase that survived in the South.

You all have in your libraries a number of excellent books of reference on this subject. I found a new one, the other day, which I call to your notice, "Expressive English" by James C. Fernald. Of all books the best are, it seems to me, the late Professor Whitley's on the "Life and growth of the English language" and Herbert Spencer's "Essay on style."

We have every day on our tables, in the best newspapers, much excellent English. Remember that the editors and reporters have to write their articles quickly and often without opportunity for revision; their language is terse, direct and generally correct. Also you have, day after day, the speeches of our orators; we had those of Mr Roosevelt, manly and enthusiastic; we have those of Mr Taft, eloquent, simple and convincing by their logic; the academic and autobiographical English of Mr Wilson, and the unblemished eloquence of Mr Lodge.

### Better Books for Children\*

P. F. Volland, president P. F. Volland Co.

A few days ago, Mr J. P. McEvoy, your presiding officer, came into my office and told me I was going to make a speech at the publishers' luncheon of the Art alliance of America, and I said, "Is that so?" and he said, "It must be because it says so on the announcement." "Well, then," I said, "It must be so."

\*An address delivered before a publishers' luncheon of the Art alliance of America, Central states division, Chicago, February 19, 1919.

But when I thought the subject over this morning I realized that I knew very little about books. I even could not explain that technical term "*Mo*" which is so commonly used.

As Mr McEvoy seemed to know all about the luncheon and the speakers, I asked him about a "*Mo*." He said he didn't know, but he would call up the public library, and this is the information I just received. I know it will be very interesting to you because I *dare* say

none of you *really* knows what a "Mo" looks like.

The abbreviation "Mo" is from the Latin words "*in duo decimo*" meaning "in 12th," so the "*duo decimo book*" is one, the pages of which, result from folding each sheet into 12 leaves commonly measuring 5" x 7½".

Later this came to be the standard for book measurement so when a book maker wished to describe a book of a size that each sheet folded into 8 pages, he called such a book an "8 Mo" book, if into 16 pages, a "16 Mo" book, etc.

Now in all my practical experience I have never folded books in 12 sheets, but only in 8, 16, 32, etc. Knowing that "*in duo decimo*" means "in 12's," I have never been able to classify the books I publish into "Mo's." But after all the technical side of making books for children is the least important.

The important part of books for children is *what goes into them*—the text—the illustrations—the ideals behind them. The text must be happy and wholesome. We don't want stories like "Jack, the Minister's Son," who escorts the old lady across the street and is left a million dollars when she dies. This is untrue and children recognize it as such. We don't want stories like "Jack, the Giant Killer," full of blood and thunder and wretchedness. Children have a right to be happy. It is our privilege, yours and mine, to make them happy—to fill their first, fresh impressionable years with beautiful, happy thoughts, with glowing pictures, with wonderful inspirations.

Good books are one of the most vital influences in a child's life. They create impressions that are lasting, and ideals that shape all the child's actions in later life. The characters in the child's book are more real, are more lifelike, in most cases, than the people of every day life. When you were a child do you remember how real Gulliver seemed to you? And Cinderella? And Little Red Riding Hood? They seemed—no, they *were*, living people in a living world. You sympathized with them in their troubles, rejoiced with them in their triumphs and tried to emulate their actions.

Stop for just half-a-minute and try to remember the first five books which were read to you or you read yourself and you will realize that you believed in these books more than you have believed in any books that you have read since.

It is important, then, that you choose your child's books as carefully as you choose his playmates. And this is how you may recognize the books you should choose for him. The books you give your child should be beautiful to the eye and beautiful to the mind, for then they create in the mind of your child the desire for the beautiful in life, in literature and in art. And these books you give your child should be not only beautiful but should be inspiring, yet simple and frank in their humor, human in their emotions, and wholesome in their teachings. The pictures should be in color, for children love color, and they should be vital and full of action. Color and action are the two things a child demands in pictures, and rightly, for life for a child is, essentially, color and action.

These ideals—ideals of beauty of thought and expression, ideals of color, loveliness and harmony, ideals of happiness and wholesomeness in words, pictures, and inspirations—all these ideals you will find in the better books for children. That is why we say they are "books good for children."

Conscientious care and intelligent effort should go into the making of them. Every manuscript and illustration should pass the most exacting criticism. Not only should each possess all the virtues enumerated, but every allusion to mischief or malice or hatred or cruelty must be eliminated. It is my ideal that books for children should contain nothing to cause fright, to suggest fear, to glorify mischief, to extenuate malice or condone cruelty.

Just as you insist that the food you give your children to nourish their bodies must be pure and wholesome, just so we should insist that the food furnished for their minds in the juvenile books be pure and wholesome and also contain those elements of inspiration which will make the child happy now.

and build for its future the contentment of a healthy mind and the inspired ideals of a beautiful soul.

It has been said that the place to be happy is here, the time to be happy is now, and the way to be happy is to make someone else happy. Children should be made happy regularly with better juvenile books. The verses and stories by the best authors for children will delight and instruct. The illustrations by famous artists, faithfully reproduced in harmonious colors, will enrich the child's mind with a keener appreciation of and desire for the good, the beautiful and the true. If you love your child you will give your child more books—more books that are good for children.

Unfortunately, a great percentage of the buyers, parents, teachers and friends are influenced by the gaudy color and the size of the book itself. Perhaps you have heard the story of the cow. A man who had many children wanted to buy a cow. He saw a pretty and gentle cow. The farmer was willing to sell it. The man asked the farmer if the cow would give any milk, and the farmer said, "Well, I donno, she is a nice, kind cow, and if she has any milk she will give it to you." In a similar way I have heard books for children recommended by the book clerks. When a customer asks, "Is the book good for my child?" the clerk often says, "The book looks good, and it *ought* to be good." As a matter of fact, they often know nothing about the book, and it might contain something harmful to the child. While a cover design will help the sale of the book, it will not make the book good for children, any more than the number of *Mo's*.

I hope every publisher will realize that publishing books for children is a high and sacred profession with the most serious responsibilities. I really believe that the Art alliance of America can assist the publishers of juvenile books in making books more artistic and therefore more helpful to the child. So I wish to thank the Art alliance of America in behalf of the publishers of juvenile books for recognizing the importance of "better books for children."

### Heroes of the Battlefield

Compiled by Marion Horton, Los Angeles public Library

"Now God be thanked Who has matched us with His hour,  
And caught our youth, and wakened us from sleeping."

Butters—Harry Butters, R. F. A.

"We who go forth with sword and lance,  
A little band to swell the battle's flow,  
Go willingly, to pay again to France  
Some of the debt we owe."

A California boy who lost his life for the allies.

Depew—Gunner Depew.

"Ghostly ships in a ghostly sea,  
(Here's to Drake in the Spanish main!)  
Hark to the turbines, running free,  
Oil-cups full and the orders plain.  
Plunging into the misty night,  
Surging into the rolling brine,  
Never a word, and never a light,  
—This for England, that love of mine!"

Hay—The first hundred thousand.

"If you're a Volunteer Artist or Athlete, or  
if you defend the home,  
You sacrifice ease for attention, and march  
like a metronome;  
But of all elementary movements you learn  
in your Volunteer Corps  
The one that is really perplexing is known  
as the Forming of Fours."

Lafond—Covered with mud and glory.

"I heard the rumbling of the guns. I saw  
the smoke.  
The unintelligible shock of hosts that still  
Far off, unseeing, strove and strove again."

Lintier—My .75.

"We are the serfs of the guns,  
Slaves to the dominant things;  
Ours are the eyes and the ears,  
And the brains of their messagings.  
By the ears and the eyes and the brains,  
By the limbs and the hands and the  
wings,  
We are the slaves to our masters, the  
guns;  
But their slaves are the masters of  
kings!"

Machen—Bowmen of Mons.

"St. George! A long bow and a strong bow!  
Old heroic fighting men  
Who fought for chivalry.  
Men who died for England,  
Mother of liberty.  
And the dead came forth, each to his former banner."

Morlae—A soldier of the legion.

"Who are you?"

"La Legion."

"A-a-ah. La Legion. That explains it." "We were to precede them in attack. Our right to the front rank seemed to be acknowledged."

Nobbs—On the right of the British lines.

"His eyes are bright and eager, with the brightness of the sun.  
(England, he gives them you.)"

Peat—Private Peat.

"Sure, it's fun to be a soldier! Oh, it's fun, fun, fun,  
Upon an iron shoulder blade to tote a feather gun;  
To hike with other brave galoots in easy-going army-boots;  
To pack along a ounce sack, the commissary on your track;  
To tramp, tramp, tramp, to a right-and-ready camp!  
Fun?—Sure, it's fun, just the finest ever, son!"

Seeger—Letters and diary.

"I have a rendezvous with Death  
At some disputed barricade,  
When Spring comes 'round with rustling shade  
And apple blossoms fill the air.  
I have a rendezvous with Death,  
When Spring brings back blue days and fair."

Sommers—Temporary heroes.

"What of the faith and fire within us  
Men who march away  
Ere the barn cocks say  
Night is growing gray,  
To hazards whence no tears can win us;  
What of the faith and fire within us  
Men who march away?"

Williams—One young man.

"All the hills and vales along  
Earth is bursting into song,  
And the singers are the chaps  
Who are going to die, perhaps.  
O sing, marching men,  
Till the valleys ring again.  
Give your gladness to earth's keeping,  
So be glad when you are sleeping."

Young—Marching on Tanga.

"Marching on Tanga, marching the parched plain  
Of wavering spear-grass by Pagani river,  
England came to me—Me who had always ta'en  
But never given before—England, the giver,

In a vision of tall poplar trees that shiver  
On still evenings of summer, after rain."

### Aviators

#### French

"Up and upward, soaring, soaring,  
Lift our battle to the skies  
In this world of light, the roaring  
Of the temporal tumult dies.  
Winged from time, we strive together  
Past the wind's last wave we run,  
Climbing up the gleaming weather  
Toward the radiance of the sun."

Guynemer.

Bordeaux—Guynemer.

Mortane—Guynemer, ace of aces.

Nadaud—The flying poilu.

Rolt-Wheeler—Wonders of war in the air.

Winslow—With the French flying corps.

#### English

"Wild wind, and drear, beneath the pale stars blowing,  
Whom do you hunt tonight?  
Out of the west into the storm cloud glowing  
A biplane wings her flight."

Bott—Cavalry of the clouds.

Bishop—Winged warfare.

Middleton—The way of the air.

Middleton—Glorious exploits of the air.

#### American

"I play my part for Lafayette and Rochambeau."

Chapman—Letters from France.

"Great-hearted, loyal, reckless for a friend,  
Not counting risks, cool-handed, clear of sight,  
He gave himself to serve a lofty end,  
And, like an eagle, soaring in the light  
On wings unruffled by wind's chance breath,  
He sought, and seeks his goal with steadfast flight,  
Victor in deeds, in name, in life, in death!"

Driggs—Arnold Adair, American ace.

Grahame-White—Heroes of the flying corps.

Hall—High adventure.

McConnell—Flying for France.

Theta, pseud.—War flying, by a pilot.

### Ambulance Drivers

"The straight, flagged road breaks into dust,  
into a thin white cloud,

About the feet of a regiment driven back  
league by league,  
Unhasting, proud in retreat,  
They smile as the Red Cross Ambulance  
rushes by."

Boyd—With a field ambulance at  
Ypres.

Bryán—Ambulance 464.

Buswell—Ambulance No. 10.

Camion letters from volunteer drivers  
of the American field service in  
France.

"Duty and the bit more that counted."  
Friends of France; the field service of  
the American service described by  
its members.

"That chance to live the life most free  
from stain,

And that rare privilege of dying well."

Gibson—Battering the Boche.

Stevenson—At the front in a flivver.

### Hospital Service

"Out where the line of battle cleaves  
The horizon of woe,  
And sightless warrior clutch the leaves,  
The Red Cross nurses go.  
The orphaned urchins kneel forlorn  
And wonder at their birth.  
Until, above them, calm and wise,  
With smile and guiding hand,  
God looking through their gentle eyes,  
The Red Cross nurses stand."

Huard—My home in the field of honor.  
Letters of a Canadian stretcher bearer.  
Mademoiselle Miss.

Monlaur—Sister Clare.

Mortimer—A green tent in Flanders.

Thurstan—Field hospital and flying  
column.

A war nurse's diary; sketches from a  
Belgian field hospital.

"Every individual who makes any  
headway in his chosen field must strug-  
gle against the current.

"The fact that a man is a success  
does not indicate that he has never  
chanced to meet adverse conditions—  
but that he has met and overcome them  
numberless times and is always ready  
for the combat.

"The only people who do not en-  
counter these difficulties in their work  
are those who fail when they reach  
them and drift along in the tide with  
the debris."

### A Lamented Young Poet

PUBLIC LIBRARIES is indebted to  
George T. Settle, librarian of the Free  
public library, Louisville, for the fol-  
lowing interesting article taken from  
a local paper:

"I'm a-waiting and a-watching for the song  
that's never o'er,  
For the joy that's never ending on that  
light-embazoned shore,  
For the peace that shall enfold me with the  
heavens' holy breath,  
For the glory that shall greet me, for the  
life that knows no death."

Lying on his bed of pain, Joseph S. Cot-  
ter, Jr., a negro youth, who next to Paul  
Lawrence Dunbar, had come to be known as  
the leading poet of his race, wrote these  
lines some months ago. He knew the end  
was near and wrote again:

"I would not tarry if I could be gone  
Adown the path which calls my eager  
mind."

Joseph S. Cotter, Jr., was a youth of  
great promise. He was the son of the prin-  
cipal of the Taylor S. Coleridge school.  
Graduated from the central high school at  
an early age, he entered Fisk university,  
Nashville, at 16. His illness, however,  
necessitated the discontinuance of his stud-  
ies. He had been an invalid for six years—  
since he was 17.

Joseph Cotter left a volume of 35 son-  
nets and lyrics typed and ready for the  
publisher. The book is called "Out of the  
shadows." Those who have seen them have  
pronounced the poems to be of great merit.  
A book of one-act plays, including "The  
white folks' nigger," is now in the hands of  
the publisher. Only last fall "The band of  
Gideon" and other poems were published in  
a small volume, to which Cale Young Rice  
wrote an introduction.

Cotter's poems were of a deeply religious  
tendency. The reflection of his long days  
and nights of lonely suffering were to be  
seen in the expressions of faith in the eter-  
nal in his writings.

One stanza from a sonnet particularly  
showed this:

"Though bends my body toward the yawn-  
ing sod,  
I can endure the pain, the sorrows rife,  
That hold me fast beneath their chastening  
rod,  
If from this turmoil and this endless  
strife,  
Comes there a light to lead man nearer God,  
And guide his footsteps toward the Larger  
Life."

## In the Letter Box

## Nationalization of Libraries

My Dear Miss Ahern:

Wherever you are I want to thank you for your letter in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for March. There is no question in my mind that the time has come for the nationalization of our libraries. If it cannot be done in connection with the Library of Congress service, it should be done in connection with the proposed department of education and until it can be done in one of these places, it must be done by the Library Association itself.

Very truly yours,  
W. D. JOHNSTON,  
Librarian.

## Stolen Property

The Kansas City public library has had taken from its shelves a copy of Roorbach's *Bibliotheca Americana*: 1820-1852. The title page and fly leaf of the book are embossed Kansas City public library, a library book plate is on the inside of the front cover and the classification numbers are to be found on back of title page and on page 13. Anyone having a copy of this book offered to them for sale will kindly examine it for these identification marks.

Very truly,  
PURD B. WRIGHT,  
Librarian.

## German Propaganda

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

We have just taken out of circulation a book, title as follows:

Baker, Josephine Turck. *Correct English daily drill book*. Published by the *Correct English Publishing Co.*, Evanston, Ill. New edition, 1917, copyrighted by Josephine Turck Baker.

This contains German propaganda, reflecting on the British and praising the Germans. See p. 186, 187.

The book was recommended at the Jefferson County teachers institute and for this reason was purchased for the library.

I think that the attention of all librarians and teachers should be called to this propaganda.

Yours very truly,  
GEO. T. SETTLE.

Public Library, Louisville, Ky.,  
March 7, 1919.

## Colleges for Soldiers

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I believe the attention of librarians all over the country should be called to "List of colleges which will admit returning U. S. soldiers as specials," which is the title of an article on page 9 of the *Official U. S. Bulletin* for February 19, 1919.

Yours very truly,  
CARL H. MILAM,  
Assistant Director.

## Is Library Courtesy So Rare a Flower?

The Piqua Daily Call, Piqua, Ohio.  
To the Editor:

My Dear Sir: I feel it due to the people of Piqua and the staff to say that I found a very favorable and commendable service existing in your library upon the occasion of my recent visit.

The thing that impressed me most favorably was the courtesy shown the patrons.

In order to be intelligently informed, I myself called as a patron, and the lady who waited upon me knew nothing about my official business but took care of me in as becoming a manner as if I were one of the peace commissioners just arrived from Paris.

In avoirdupois the attendant cut no figure, but, like the great Napoleon, who also lacked weight, she knew how to do things.

I am saying this concerning those deserving it.

Yours very truly,

J. H. NEWMAN,  
State Librarian.

### Good News from Texas

The El Paso public library has received recently, a substantial increase in appropriation. On February 13th, the city granted the library the full amount due the institution under the city charter, 3.7 mills of the taxable valuation of city property.

The yearly amount is \$22,500, and this will be given to the library in monthly payments, beginning April 1st.

For many years, this library has suffered from lack of funds. It was necessary to create public interest, and to work very hard to secure the money which was due the library. A short, enthusiastic campaign roused the interest of the citizens, also the fact that a new ticket was up for election March 1st, and women are voting here this year, made a great difference in the attitude of the men.

The work in El Paso is very interesting, and the field for children's work is rich in opportunities. Americanization work done with Mexican children is most fascinating.

Talks given in regard to this part of the work by the librarian, did much to help secure the better appropriation.

Last year, the sadly handicapped for help, 78,103 books were circulated. The library contains 14,363 v. with 8,663 borrowers. There are 3,122 children's books, for which the circulation was 26,447 last year. The library was closed 36 days on account of influenza.

With the future ahead, full of possibilities on account of this increase in the funds, we expect to establish libraries in every school, build up the children's department, make a beginning at a technical reference collection for mining men, which shall be the best in the Southwest, and make the library a real, vital force in this community.

There is need for more help here. A children's librarian, and also a general as-

sistant are wanted immediately. The opportunities are great for interesting work, and for advancement.

MAUD DURLIN SULLIVAN,  
Librarian.

### Friendly Libraries

Denver has six fine new branch libraries of which any city might be proud.

They are in appearance what the librarian, Chalmers Hadley, calls them, "Friendly libraries." The general attractiveness has called forth much favorable commendation from many prominent librarians. It is said that the essential features in the Sarah Platt Decker branch library have been copied in Wisconsin, Iowa, and California, after inspection of the branches by visiting library trustees.

Denver's system of branch public libraries has been a feature of municipal development of the last six years. With its population scattered over an area of 59 square miles, practically the same as St. Louis, the result was that without branch libraries only a small proportion of Denver citizens were within easy reach of books.

To give access to books, Denver now has six specially erected branch library buildings and two additional reading rooms. The library's plans for branch buildings called for eight buildings to meet existing demands. The Carnegie corporation was asked to consider Denver's library needs, and responded munificently with two gifts of \$80,000 each—\$160,000 in all—for present library requirements. Four of Denver's branches were completed five years ago at a cost of \$80,000 and two were completed this year at a cost approximately of \$40,000. All plans for the remaining two buildings have been held up by the excessive cost of building materials during the war, the abnormal scarcity of labor, and the wishes of the national government that building operations of all kinds during the war be reduced to a minimum.

The cost of the buildings has varied with their size, and this in turn has depended on the number of people in each community each building is designed to serve. While all the buildings have been erected through the beneficence of the Carnegie corporation, and grateful acknowledgment is made on bronze tablets in them, the Denver branches have been named for pioneers in Denver's history, in order to give individuality in their nomenclature and convenience in use.

Monthly—Except August  
and September.

# Public Libraries

Library Bureau, Publishers  
M. E. AHERN, Editor

Subscription - - - - - \$2 a year Current single number - - - - 25 cents  
Five copies to one library - - - \$8 a year Foreign subscriptions - - - - \$2.25 a year

In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

## Work with the Local Employment Service

The effort made by the U. S. Employment service to induce public libraries to co-operate with it in its work gives the libraries an opportunity to get in touch with a class of potential readers rarely reached hitherto. The actual number of working men and women who go directly to the public library for vocational reading when directed by the local employment office may be very small—perhaps not more

than one or two percent of the whole, but a pleased or satisfied library-user is never content to keep his experience to himself, and his new status as a reader is sure to be shared with many of his companions and friends sooner or later. The Employment service having signified a desire to do its part in this interesting work, it now remains to see how the libraries will react to the opportunity.

A. E. B.

## Sanity on the Foreign Language Question

Many librarians, and perhaps more boards of trustees, are exercised at present over the proper policy of public libraries in the purchase of foreign books. Some of them possibly do not realize that foreign books are bought for a variety of reasons, all of which may not apply to a specific library. Prominent among them are the following three:

Many informational books are issued only in foreign languages and are never translated into English. Notable among these are many books on applied science; for instance, industrial chemistry and physics. Many libraries must have these for their collections and the fact that they are in a foreign

language is, of course, incidental.

Many foreign books are bought for cultural reasons. Many persons read foreign languages as a continuation and extension of their education. In most American cities French books, for instance, are bought chiefly for this reason, there being few residents whose native language is French. In this connection it is also desirable when there is a translation in the library to add also the book in its original tongue, no matter what this tongue may be. This may be followed as a matter of policy, so that those who wish may have access to the writer's words exactly as he put them down.

Foreign books are also bought for

the use of persons who are either unable to read English or do so with difficulty. Both take pleasure and find profit in reading books in the language to which they are accustomed and of which they have the most complete knowledge. This applies very largely

to the least known foreign languages, like Lithuanian, Modern Greek, Polish, etc.

It is probable that most public libraries are at present spending money for books in foreign languages for one or more of these reasons. A. E. B.

### Billboard Publicity for Libraries

Many a librarian fails thru lack of ingenuity and the ability to adapt conditions to needs.

Witness this most shining example of a splendid chance grasped at the crucial moment and adapted to a special need. Given a vacant billboard left standing on the public square at Youngstown, Ohio, after the December war savings stamp campaign; a librarian who saw it and obtained permission to use it; a public-spirited poster company willing to paint, at cost, a picture in colors which would appeal to the men who need books about their jobs; at the right-hand end of the billboard a plate glass show window, lighted at night; in this a display of the very books on technical subjects that would interest the workmen; also books about the war, reconstruction problems, and a few about France.

Besides the flaming billboard, a 12-page list of books, with an artistic two-color design, was distributed to the mills and employment bureaus of the city. The list has novel features including a page explaining the use of technical magazines and proceedings, with a facsimile of a section of *Industrial Arts Index*. On the back cover is a reproduction of a row of books on iron, steel and chemistry.

Truly the days have gone by when librarians sit smugly behind a high desk calmly waiting for borrowers and readers. The present day librarian has seen a great light! The librarian who cannot go out into the streets of even the smallest city or village and see numerous opportunities for up-to-date and effective publicity will be left far behind in the advancing procession of library workers.

### The Art Alliance of America

One of the newer educational organizations, The Art Alliance of America, which had its inception in New York about three years ago, according to its constitution has for its object "the raising of the standard of design in American goods by bringing together manufacturers and designers, and making clear to distributors and consumers

the importance of improved design as a national asset."

In a recent folder issued by the Central division of the Alliance with headquarters at the Art institute, Chicago, the hope is expressed that the Alliance may broaden the scope of art in connection with products of all kinds.

The initial meeting of the Central di-

vision held at the DeJonghe hotel, Chicago, in February, a luncheon, was devoted to the publishers and was well worth the sympathetic attention of all librarians who are anxious to see the book business improve and grow artistically.

On the program were men prominent in the book making business of Chicago and so closely in accord with library thought were some of the topics that one could almost fancy some librarian had a hand in the making. The publisher's aim is much like the librarian's, only the subject is approached from a different point of view. The far-seeing publishers seek the same result as do the librarians—the uplift of taste in the making and consumption of books.

The Alliance is a project well worth the consideration and encouragement of all patriotic librarians whether the subject under immediate discussion be books, textiles, toys, costumes, furniture or jewelry. A cultivation of a higher taste in any one of these products should, and no doubt will, lead to the improvement of art in all the others.

The encouragement given in the passage of the Smith-Hughes bill will aid greatly in this development. Not without a basic reason has France come by its reputation for costume, or England for its porcelains. These and other European countries have well developed systems of art education. Our industrial art has failed to keep pace with the advance of manufacturers, until all hands should now pull together to raise our standards so that business and beauty may be united.

---

"Criticism is the easiest of all social pastimes."

#### Now for the Merchant Marine!

Librarians will no doubt feel a modest satisfaction in the compliment paid to the profession by Mr Edward N. Hurley of the Shipping board for its team work in the various war campaigns. Mr Hurley says "Without the special information service which librarians were able to furnish on matters like food conservation, domestic science, etc., it would have been difficult to win the war."

Now that the war is won, the attention of librarians is directed by Mr Hurley to the development of our new merchant marine. He believes that good reading is the chief factor in creating an intelligent opinion about the American merchant marine, which is the foundation of our success upon the ocean.

At Mr Hurley's request, John Cotton Dana, of the Free public library, Newark, N. J., has had some compact lists of books compiled, with brief digests by Miss M. L. Prevost; these lists to be published in business papers, and also sent to librarians thruout the United States with a view to having the actual books themselves segregated and brought to the attention in connection with the American merchant marine and world trade.

Mr Hurley thinks the ingenuity and eagerness with which librarians have "put over" similar ideas during the war makes it almost unnecessary to suggest definite methods. He feels confident that they will carry out this work in many clever ways, once the idea is laid before them.

---

#### The Job and the Man

"Your job back home; a book for the man leaving the service," is a new publication of the A. L. A. Library War Service intended for use on transports, in camps, and hospital libraries both here and overseas.

The purpose of the book is to pictorially present the vocational books to the men returning to civil life. The first edition of 10,000 copies is to be dis-

tributed free of charge as a reference book, but will be followed by a library edition bound in cloth to sell at cost price, 50c.

The *National Geographic Magazine* has lent many of the plates, and the Association has been fortunate in having the collaboration of the Committee on education and special training of the War Plans division, War department, as well as having the text endorsed by the Labor department.

This book is exceedingly attractive and will help the men who are returning from the service "to keep on fighting—against mental and physical lassitude and the difficulties of business and professional life."

---

#### Asbury Park Conference June 23-28

The explanation of the reasons for the choice of Asbury park, New Jersey, for the next conference seem quite justifiable, tho it may not be according to precedent.

It is no doubt out of the question to take the conference this year to the far west on account of the expense, and the importance of the past year's business makes it advisable to hold the meeting nearer the center of population. The executive board has sought in vain for an adequate location between the Alleghenies and the Mississippi within reach of library centers. Asbury Park has been tried and is known to be a satisfactory place of meeting. Moreover, the New Monterey offers better rates than are to be found elsewhere for the same standard of service.

New Monterey rates will be as follows: Two persons in a double room with double bed, \$4 each daily; two persons in a double room with twin beds, \$4.50 each daily; four persons occupying two double connection rooms with bath, \$5.50 each daily; two persons occupying a double room with double bed and private bath, \$5.50 each daily; and two persons in a double room with twin beds and private bath attached, \$6 each daily.

The New Monterey can care for about

500, with the usual amount of "doubling up."

Other hotels and boarding houses will again be available, for the most part at rates less than those of the New Monterey. An attempt will be made to accommodate all purses.

General sessions will be held in the Auditorium, and sectional and other meetings in the New Monterey and other hotels.

Asbury Park is well known for its invigorating air, fine beach, the boardwalk, its accessible fresh-water lakes, the smooth auto roads, and broad and comfortable hotel porches.

New Jersey librarians promise their help in every way possible, to make the conference a success.

It is planned to organize a special party from Chicago, but concerning rates and schedules to prevail in June no definite information can be offered at this time. The present railroad fare from Chicago to Asbury Park is \$29.32; Pullman charge, \$4.96 lower berth, \$3.96 upper.

It is not possible at present to ascertain whether any special excursion rates from distant points can be had. The present rate each way is about three cents a mile.

---

#### Band Concerts vs. Public Libraries

A recent tourist in Florida reports that he has been spending the winter in one of the large towns where they spend \$12,000 for a ten weeks' period of band concerts. He states, however, that he prefers the splendid library at Bartow and the good service maintained by the library more than he does the large expenditure of money for a band in the other town, where the library is open only twice a week for two hours a day. He will spend the rest of the winter in Bartow and the good impression of a city with a fine library will probably take him directly to Bartow next winter. He says there are many other tourists who feel the same way.

### The Committee of Five—A Library Survey

President Bishop has, with the authorization of the Executive Board, appointed a committee of five, consisting of Arthur E. Bostwick, chairman, St. Louis public library; Linda A. Eastman, Cleveland public library; Carl H. Milam, Library War Service, Washington; Azariah S. Root, Oberlin college library; and C. C. Williamson, New York public library; to make a general survey of American library service, particularly in view of the post-war conditions of readjustment. The following letter, addressed by Mr. Bishop to those whom he invited to serve, expresses very clearly what he has in mind for this committee to accomplish:

The executive board at its meeting on January 11, authorized the president to appoint a committee to survey the whole field of American library service, particularly in view of the after-war period of readjustment. This committee is to present a preliminary report at the Asbury Park conference in June, 1919.

The president feels that a survey analogous to the famous reports on secondary education and primary education made by the committee of eleven and of fifteen of the National Educational Association is the sort of thing wanted now. There is crying need for a survey of actual library service, for a statement, concrete and actual, of just how American libraries are meeting, or failing to meet their opportunities, and for a program setting forth in plain and simple words the great possibilities that lie before us. In other words, we librarians want a plan of operation, a norm with which we can measure our own efforts.

Such a survey will perhaps help us to keep the swing and momentum gained in our American Library Association War Service. It should be divided among various groups—should be most concrete, rather than hortatory or theoretical. It should tell what the field is, how far it is being filled, and how much remains to be done. If successfully carried out, there should result standards for libraries—standards of equipment, buildings, service of all sorts, salaries and income generally. In short, we should do consciously and objectively the sort of thing the Carnegie Foundation has done for legal and medical education, and should do it better, because this survey would be made sympathetically by competent persons actually working in the fields discussed.

Will you accept membership on the committee of five? The committee has power to appoint sub-committees from within and without its own membership.

It is hoped that the committee will be prepared to make a preliminary informal report at the Asbury Park conference in June, which can be discussed by the Association at large. This is one of the most important movements under way in the library field and librarians everywhere will await with interest the conclusions of the committee. In the meantime the librarians of the country are urged to coöperate with the committee in furnishing it with whatever information it may need.

### Mail Order Methods Successful

The Oregon state library has the largest mail order circulation of any library in the United States, notwithstanding the present postal rates—perhaps it is the librarian behind the books who overcomes the disadvantage of high postage. The last report to the legislature shows a steadily increasing use of the library by persons in the remoter regions who do not have access to library facilities common to city people.

This new spirit of library service is taking the books to the people when they cannot go to the library.

With a good deal of wisdom the usual statistics found in library reports have given place to extracts from letters showing how much appreciated is the "Oregon system." The following quotations express the feeling of the borrowers:

"The library is responsible for the fact that a boy who lived so far from the centers of population that he had never seen a railway train knew all about the latest improvements in locomotives, and the mechanism of airplanes. And one need not be exceptionally gifted with imagination to be impressed by the letter from a patron, who describes himself as a lonely prospector and ex-stage driver. 'Because of bad roads,' he says, 'few have gone to town in the last few weeks. The boot's borrowed were hauled by stage about 30 miles and packed horseback about 15 miles. Thank you kindly for the treat of the books.'

"Our schoolhouse has a library, but the pupils have read all the books and are anxious for more books to read," voices a longing that it would be a pity not to com-

ply with. Even the requests for "eight or nine pounds of books, to be kept three months," does not indicate entire lack of discrimination. It is a voice from a lonely place, where anything to read would be better than nothing, and where it may be supposed that a discriminating librarian will find a field for missionary work.

It is the business of this library to see that the right book gets to the right person, and that right quickly.

### Cures for Library Weariness

Contributed by those who enjoy them.

A junior high school student asked for "something on the life of an irrigator." It developed she wanted information on vegetable life in the irrigated districts of the west.

"Life about the incubator" was another inquiry. This turned out to be "life about the equator."

A little boy said his mother wanted a good flaying book. Asked to spell it, the result was the same: "f-l-a-y-i-n-g." This was too much for us until he murmured something about "lace." Then we knew that a book on filet lace would satisfy his mother's needs.

One child demanded "The Hindenburg stove." This was easy. "Ouida's Nuremberg stove" was produced at once.

A small boy asked an assistant for a good book for his mother. He was given Buckrose—Gossip shop, but he put it down with the remark, "My mother would not read it. She does not like gossip of any kind."

At a recent catalog class, one boy hastened to reply to the question "What is an autobiography?" "Why it's a book that tells you all about the parts of an automobile, and you can get it in the 600's because it's useful."

Several boys in search of debating material on the unpopular side of the child labor question, had seriously taxed the resources of the library and the ingenuity of the assistants. That they were not ungrateful for what they received was shown when they came rushing in at noon one day for the sole purpose of announcing that they had won the debate, and with it the Cham-

pionship of Brownell junior high. When congratulated on winning in spite of very obvious difficulties, one boy said, "Oh, it's you librarians here that deserve the credit!"

These answers are from the last examination of the library practice students, freshmen class of the Oregon state college.

Natural science—a science which deals with ready-made subjects.

Larned—deals with mining.

Granger—Ans. 1. History of certain countries. 2. Useful mostly for events of rural importance and farm statistics.

Philology—study of the head.

U. S. Census reports—good for any statistics on mules, weddings, chickens, folks, crops.

Applied science is real work, such as blacksmithing.

U. S. Census gives increases, decreases, divorces.

### Juvenile Book Covers

In the St. Paul public library, picture books for the branches and stations are rejuvenated after re-binding by the addition of an appropriate illustration pasted on the cover. The pictures are taken from discarded copies of juvenile books. A light coat of shellac protects the surface from the wear and tear of handling. It is possible to handle about thirty books in an hour, thus adding very slightly to the expense. Books decorated in this way seem to be as attractive as new copies to the children.

"No soldier thru ignorance or misunderstanding should deprive himself and his family of the privilege and protection conferred by the possession of United States Government insurance."

Libraries may help to spread this information, sent out by the government, to returning soldiers and sailors. A poster with that forceful picture of Uncle Sam pointing his finger at one, and the following slogan would reach many:

**Hold on to Uncle Sam's Insurance!**

*You owe it to yourself and to your family to Hold On!*

*It is the strongest, safest, and cheapest life insurance ever written.*

**Library Day at a Woman's Club**

Library day at the Evanston, Illinois, Woman's club, was observed March 18 at the Woman's building with the city teachers the guests of the afternoon.

Staff members of the Evanston public library presented various interesting and clever book exhibits covering garden, business, drama and handicraft ideas, besides two tables demonstrating pictorially just how Evanston's 20 various library stations are served. An up-to-date "Business before pleasure" list of books was given to the guests who desired one. The work of the Illinois library extension commission was graphically represented thru several charts. A large collection of French war posters attracted favorable attention.

After inspecting the various exhibits, an audience which filled the large assembly room gathered to listen to the program planned by Marcus Skarstedt, librarian of the Public library, Evanston.

Emma G. White, long a successful teacher in the Washington school, described her work with foreigners, no new venture in Evanston, as the work of the night schools dates back eight years. Miss White had with her one evidence of her success in a great package of letters from former pupils, many of them Greeks, all testifying their devotion and allegiance to America.

Following this, Mr John J. Arnold, vice-president of the First National bank of Chicago, spoke on the subject, "Public libraries in their relation to public education and the problems of Americanization." He said that the day of real use of the library in our life is but dawning; formerly librarians had not sufficiently brought their work to public attention, but to-day libraries are being felt much more, even in business, and when the educational aim of the library is once thoroly understood larger financial support will be given, as there is "nothing better than to invest money in the best books." If the immigrant has brought a problem—

problems are good for us, and a large factor in the solution will be the thinking women of the land, who are courageously talking about these problems, and they will help to work out new ideals.

**Business Branch Birthday Party**

Is there a picture wire manufacturer in Indiana?

Have you anything about the shale oil resources of Colorado?

Who makes envelopes in Chicago?

What city in the U. S. has a street called Mud Puddle Lane?

Where can I buy a special directory of the brewing industry?

Are there any house organs published especially for farmers?

Who is the president of the Cleveland Traffic club?

Questions such as these, in rather alarming quantity, comprised a large part of the program of the Advertising club of Indianapolis at a recent regular weekly noon meeting held in the Business branch library. The 50 odd members who assembled on that date came "officially to inspect their bureau of information," which has grown rapidly in the past year in its collection of books, pamphlets, maps, magazines and other things selected from "the stream of print" to meet the demands of the business men of Indianapolis. The occasion, by the way, marked the first anniversary of the Indianapolis business branch.

Believing that "seeing is believing," we invited the Advertising club to witness a practical demonstration of our service extended to business men and women. Many members of the club, which from the beginning as an organization has been a real friend to the business library idea, were already familiar with the resources of the branch, but many of those present were honestly surprised and delighted to find such a collection and service so readily accessible to them.

Prior to the "laboratory" exposition of what the branch could do in the way

of furnishing replies to all sorts of questions, Mr Rush spoke of the general idea of business libraries, their history in this country, the aims which they are attempting to realize together with some practical examples of what such work has meant to individuals, corporations and communities. The branch librarian then gave a short "seeing the business branch" talk, explaining the various files and devices, and pointing out the different groups of reference books, trade and telephone directories, etc., and the classes of business books as they stand on the shelves. In the meantime the library assistants present were searching for the replies to the written questions handed in by the advertising men. As soon as they were located each question was read, its answer reported, the source of information displayed, and in some cases the process of getting at the particular facts was described.

The results were apparently pleasing to all, and especially to those of us most concerned. The only question remaining unanswered was that of a manufacturing jeweler who had received an order for some special pins involving an unknown design, "What is an Australian Umph?" We are now making plans to invite two other organizations to attend similar meetings.

ETHEL CLELAND,  
Librarian,  
Indianapolis business branch library.

#### Let the Children do the Work

A "library epidemic" is spreading thru the entire St. Paul school system. To make everyone in the city a patron of the public library was the object of an advertising campaign in which every St. Paul school child was enlisted.

Pupils in all grades have all done something in connection with their art work to bring the advantages of the library before the public during Library Week, March 23-30.

The slogan "a library card in every home," was illustrated by a great variety of posters, some of them most original, made by the school children. The posters were displayed in shop windows thruout the city during Library Week.

Many children visited the library to gather information about the library's history and to get inspiration for posters. Some wrote essays about the library. Even the kindergarten children had a part. They built a library with their building blocks on a sand table, and made miniature books which they placed in the arms of kindergarten dolls who represented the public rushing up the walks of the library.

The project originated with the Riverview civic club to bring the Riverview branch library to the attention of the community, but it soon spread over the entire city.

Library Week was endorsed by the mayor, city officials, the Town Criers, Rotary club and other organizations.

The week ended with a reception at the library with music by the high school orchestra.

#### National Library Service

Definite accomplishments of the new National Library service thus far have been:

1 The holding together of library publicity directors formerly connected with the United States Food Administration.

2 Hundreds of letters sent out asking for suggestion and criticism.

3 A government news file and information library started at Washington.

4 Connection established with the heads of numerous government bureaus and with news representatives of eleven government departments.

5 Ten thousand copies of each of the first and second bulletins distributed and a third prepared.

Letters received from many prominent librarians and other military civic and educational authorities voice the warmest support and approval of the initial plans for extension of the service. Lack of space prevents quotations at length. A few will suffice:

Asa Wynkoop of the New York state library: "It is the most important and significant library movement of the present century."

Frederick G. Melcher, vice-president of the R. R. Bowker Co.: "It has the greatest constructive value."

Ada Comstock, dean of Smith college: "If National Library service can carry over into times of peace that sense of unity and of coöperating effort which we all had during the war, it will be of inestimable benefit to the country."

Rear-Admiral McGowan: "It can not be too strongly stressed because of benefit to the government itself by reason of greater and more valuable coöperation of the people."

Clara F. Baldwin, secretary Minnesota public library commission: "It is one of the greatest steps toward unifying and broadening library work."

The character of the first numbers of the *National Library Service* is timely and will be of definite and immediate use. The new publication has received a warm welcome as a decided addition to library literature, and it is an advance step in library work which will no doubt prevent needless duplication in the efforts of librarians.

#### Library Legislation

Two bills affecting the Free public library commission of Massachusetts have been introduced in the present legislature; one, in the House would abolish the Commission; the other, a Senate bill, would not do this but retains all the commissions and boards of the consolidated departments under one paid director.

By the constitutional amendment recently passed, this consolidation will have to come, so the present Commission favors being placed under the Board of education as a logical place.

In North Dakota "reforms" seem also to have hit the public library commission.

A bill passed both houses to combine all penal and educational institutions, including the common schools under one "Board of administration." This would affect the Library commission which is at present with the educational institutions under the State on application.

board of regents. The bill was bitterly fought and will be submitted to referendum within 90 days, as there is a strong objection to the bill.

The State law library is to have an employee who shall be known as "supreme court reporter, state law librarian, and legislative librarian."

The powers promoting the bill explained there was no intent to do any of the work of a legislative reference bureau beyond furnishing legal advice to legislators, but insisted it was necessary to retain the full title "in order to give the man something to do" (Law librarians, please take notice) "we don't want him sitting around here with his feet on the desk." The plan is to employ a lawyer, library training or experience not being considered necessary.

#### Recent Aids for Child Welfare Work

Elva L. Bascom, in charge of library coöperation for the Children's bureau has prepared some excellent suggestions to librarians on child welfare work showing exactly where emphasis may be placed to the best advantage.

Librarians who are assisting the State Councils of Defense, and other organizations in their present campaign for education, will find Miss Bascom's outline particularly helpful.

The outline tells what organizations to work with; what printed material to collect; and methods of making the library's resources on this subject known in a community. With the outline is sent a list of the publications of the Children's bureau. Librarians are urged to secure a supply for local needs. A list of references on Every child in school, and Child labor, accompany bulletin board posters, which will be of use both to welfare workers and civic teachers.

The U. S. Bureau of education has some valuable publications on parent-teacher associations, which may be had on application.

### War Library Service On this side

Camp and hospital librarians have held group meetings in several different sections of the country for the purpose of planning future work for camp libraries, particularly with regard to reconstruction activity.

Books are still needed in quantities and librarians must continue to encourage the contribution of books wherever possible. Gifts of fiction or recreational books release money which the A. L. A. can spend on much needed technical or special works. The hospital need for books has merely begun.

The "Khaki universities" are said to be doing wonders for many men who never had an opportunity to go to a higher institution of learning. Instruction on such subjects as insurance, general and personal sanitation, and other economic and sociological topics will enable the men in khaki to recognize and handle the Bolshevism which may crop out in various parts of the country. Camp libraries are a very necessary adjunct to this short course education. Librarians contend that many soldiers have formed the reading habit in the army, a large number in connection with work or professions they expect to follow on their return to civil life. It is believed that the public libraries will have more patrons in every community than ever before.

Public libraries will not fail to use the 24 vocational lists which have been issued in a special edition for their convenience, and librarians are requested to furnish the lists to local bureaus for returning soldiers and sailors in such quantities as may be used to advantage. Some of the lists should be supplied to the regular office of the U. S. Employment Service. The cost of the lists is borne by the Library War Service and they should be used only for the benefit of the men for whose service the funds were given by the American people. Additional lists for other members of the community may be secured at cost, \$1.50 per thousand.

Small libraries with limited funds will find the lists helpful even if only one or two good books on each subject are available.

The "Opportunity monographs" published by the Federal board for vocational education are decidedly useful. New titles recently issued are: Safety and fire protection engineering; Oxy-acetylene welding; Concrete construction and cement manufacture; Electricity employments with utility companies; Electrical construction maintenance, and repair occupations; The law as a vocation.

### Jefferson Barracks

The American Library Association, acting through the St. Louis public library, has purchased the old building of the Knights of Columbus at Jefferson barracks and is preparing to refit it as a library. The Association has been for some time conducting a camp library at the barracks, but it has had no building of its own, being located in part of the Y. M. C. A. hut. After the equipment of the new building the collection at the Y. M. C. A. will be continued as a branch and there will also be branches as at present at the Knights of Columbus building, the Red Cross house and elsewhere. The dismantling of library buildings in some of the cantonments that are being discontinued makes it possible to furnish the new library at the barracks in the best possible style and at a minimum of expense. The purchase of the old Knights of Columbus building insures a very much larger library building than the Association would have erected at this point under ordinary conditions. A camp librarian of experience will also be installed and the facilities for reference, vocational and hospital work greatly increased.

### Overseas

Twenty-five hundred men of the American Expeditionary Forces wrote in to the central Paris library of the American Library Association in the month of January, requesting and receiving a certain book.

The figures indicate, representatives of

the Association say, the enormous extent to which the men are making use of the franking privilege granted to the Association by the Army post office in France. Any man with the American forces can write in to the Paris headquarters of the A. L. A. and ask for any book on any subject. In the great majority of cases, the book he wants is available, and is sent to him by return mail, free of postage, to keep for one month.

Mary Eileen Ahern, now in Paris, says:

"The A. L. A. files are full of human documents from generals to privates, expressing what these books mean to them in far off villages, distant hills and desolate places where only a book breaks the monotony. Books are snapped up eagerly because of the advertised willingness of the A. L. A. to send books anywhere on request.

"Among the letters received from the men are such as this: 'I am an officer in a national bank in civil life. Send me books on banking, as I wish to become a national bank examiner.' Another writes: 'I am in a small town where I can't get any books. A letter takes twenty-one days to go and the same number to return. So send the books.' Another private writes: 'Things are monotonous here. Send me a self-taught elementary arithmetic.' Some requests are humorous, such as that of a private who wrote: 'I saw a book on husbandry on your list. I have nothing to do here, so I might as well learn how to be a good husband.' Another officer requested at the same time Henri Bergson's philosophy and Balzac's droll stories.

In the month of January 104 recreational centers and 70 military organizations were served by the Paris headquarters, which sent out 45,000 volumes by mail alone. In the month of December, 1918, 5000 requests for books were served through the mails from Paris.

The educational libraries, aggregating 300,000 volumes, which have been sent over since the signing of the armistice especially for the use of the schools established by the Army education commission, are now being given rapid distribution in mail cars by the Army post office. Three library buildings are now in process of construction at Le Mans and Brest, in each case by army engineers. A building has just been completed at St. Aignan.

Service to the American army of occupation is being given from central li-

braries in Coblenz and Trier with branches up and down the Rhine. More than 50,000 books have gone into Germany. In the first four days after the library was opened in Coblenz more than 2000 volumes were drawn out by men doing garrison duty there.

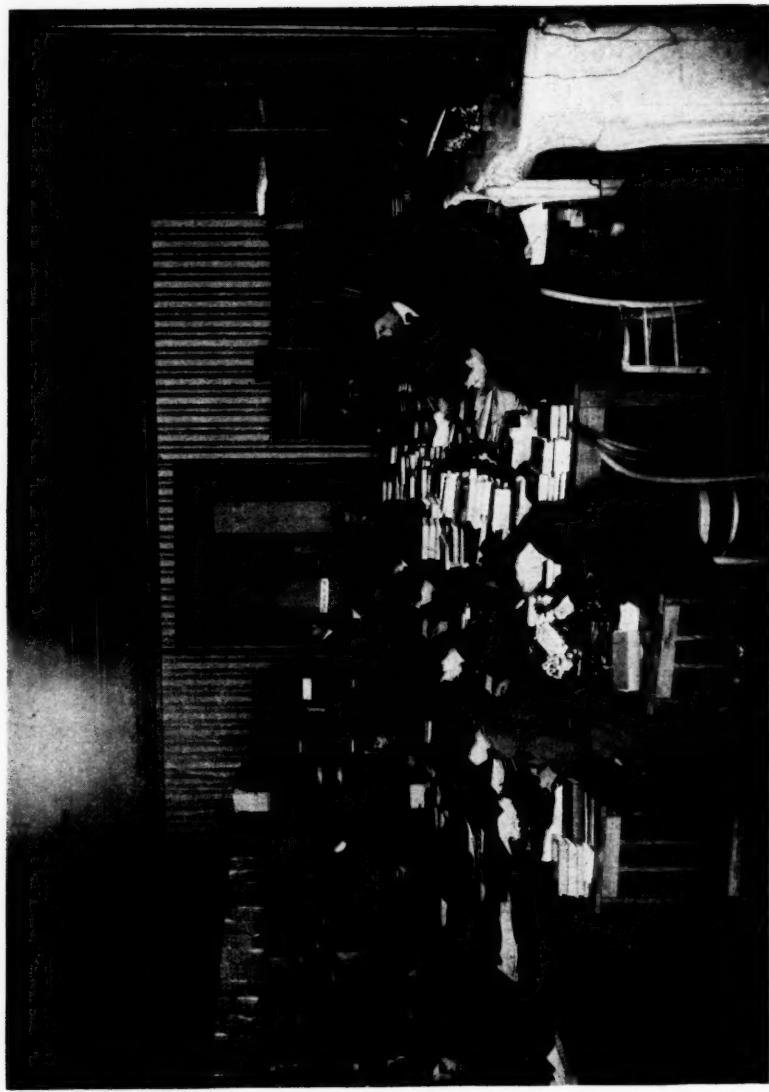
To maintain army morale during the next six months at least 1,000,000 more fiction and miscellaneous books are needed, in addition to the 2,000,000 volumes which the A. L. A. has already sent to France. This is the word cabled back to the headquarters of the American Library Association in Washington by Dr Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, and General Director of the Library War Service. Since January 1st Dr Putnam has been in France directing library service to the American Expeditionary Forces.

American soldiers and marines as they board the transports in France to return home are now being greeted by recent magazines and newspapers fresher than any they have seen since leaving America. Each transport carries a permanent library averaging one book for every four men. When it docks at an American port the A. L. A. dispatch agent renews the book collection and places aboard magazines and newspapers of the same day ready to greet the next load of men.

A recent cable from Dr Putnam, March 3, says, "With arrivals yesterday our personnel now sufficient. Any retrenchment should not affect overseas work, the most important and distinctive still remaining. To-day's mail brought over 2,000 individual requests for non-fiction."

The revised list of overseas library workers is as follows:

Mary Eileen Ahern, Alice L. Bacon, Mary J. Booth, Miss Braley, Roma Brashear, Miss E. S. Coit, Annie S. Cutter, Margaret Crowe, O. C. Davis, L. L. Dickerson, Asa Don Dickinson, Miss E. Dorton, Harold T. Dougherty, M. S. Dudgeon, Rhea K. Egolf, Ralph P. Emerson, Louisa K. Fast, Kate D. Ferguson, Edith Flagg, Pauline Fullerton, Blanche Galloway, Eleanor Gleason, Alice Goddard, Mrs



Mailing Room, American Library Association Headquarters, Paris.

Lillian Baker Griggs, Miss Harper, Arthur Hoyt, Julia Ideson, Mary F. Isom, Mrs Grace B. Jeckyll, Judson T. Jennings, W. H. Kerr, Mrs W. H. Kerr, Helen Lathrop, Harriet C. Long, Bess McCrea, Anna A. MacDonald, George McQueen, E. N. Manchester, Lena Megee, Anne Mulheron, Marion Oliver, Mrs Elsie Palmer, Mrs Elizabeth Potter, Marian Potts, Louise Prouty, Shirley Putnam, S. H. Ranck, Miss O. N. Rounds, Edward E. Ruby, Alide Stephens, Burton E. Stevenson, Mrs Burton E. Stevenson, Elizabeth Thurston, Mary L. Wallace, Elizabeth J. Webster, Charlotte Wheeler, Mary F. Wilson, Eva Wrigley, Helen Yerkes.

A camp librarian's prescription to drive away the blues: "Go to the camp library and get one book on the job you are thinking about; another book on the girl you are dreaming of; mix these with some magazine and a few pictures. Take at regular intervals in doses suited to your constitution. Continue the treatment indefinitely. This medicine is guaranteed to cure."

#### Atlantic City Meetings

Joint meetings of the New Jersey library association, the Pennsylvania library club and American Library Institute were held March 7 to 8.

The first subject considered was, "The collection and care of material of temporary value," ably presented by Mrs Mabel E. Cosgrove, of the Newark public library.

Mr Dana spoke of the accumulation of pamphlets, many of them not of special value to the particular library receiving them, and of the time and postage required to request the desirable ones, as well as the difficulty of finding out what were available. He suggested that the state, thru the New Jersey public library commission, might secure and sort the various pamphlets, and distribute to each library the ones of especial value to that library, the library paying a small sum pro rata for the service.

A committee was appointed to take up this matter with the Library commission and to work out a method of approaching the legislature to ask that an appropriation be made for this purpose.

Edith Guerrier outlined the plan of National Library Service under the Department of the Interior.

*It was Resolved*—That the New Jersey library association endorses the idea of the National Library Service and approves the connection thus to be established between the government and the libraries, to the end that libraries may be enabled to place before their patrons authentic government information.

Three book reviews were given: Lord Dunsany's "Heart of Welleran," a fine appreciation by Margaret Jackson; Charles Kingsley's "Tutor's story," by Dr Van Hoesen; and Willa Cather's "My Antonia," by Ella B. Cook; with a closing talk on the importance of good books for boys by one who writes them, William Heylinger, known to the boys as Hawley Williams.

Captain A. P. Simmonds gave a vigorous talk on the war and the need to support it financially to a finish.

An address was made by Charles Zueblin on "Education for freedom."

The Saturday morning session was in charge of the American Library Institute. The president's address by Dr W. N. C. Carlton, of the Newberry library, Chicago, was on Research. The innovation of a joint meeting of the three organizations proved most interesting and in the opinion of many present justified future repetition. The guiding theme of the Institute's meetings was "International Coöperation." The two principal papers read were: "The Essentials and literature of public international coöperation," by Dr E. C. Richardson, and "The earlier schemes of international organization," by F. C. Hicks. Interesting data on Louvain, past and present, was given by Dr Paul J. Foik, and Dr T. W. Koch.

Papers by F. K. Walter, T. F. Currier, and J. C. M. Hanson were read

by title and will appear in print later. Altogether the meeting was one of the best and most inspiring ever held by the Institute and showed that this body was a very live organization.

Elva L. Bascom made a plea in behalf of library coöperation in the child welfare plans of the Children's bureau.

The final joint session, presided over by Henry F. Marx of Easton, Pennsylvania, had the pleasure of hearing the experiences of John McClure Hamilton in painting portraits of famous men; and Joseph Pennell, who showed many fine illustrations by well-known painters and illustrators, giving the history of book illustration through its best examples.

The election of the officers of the New Jersey library association was announced as follows:

President, Dr Henry B. Van Hoeven of Princeton university; vice-presidents, Irene A. Hackett, Englewood; Charles M. Lum, Chatham; secretary, Mary P. Parsons, Morristown; treasurer, Adele W. Lupton, Rahway.

Tea was served in the sun-parlor on Saturday afternoon. Dancing followed the Saturday evening session, and the meeting was unofficially voted one of the most enjoyable of the annual conventions.

IRENE A. HACKETT,  
Secretary.

---

#### Salesmanship Hint

The librarian in charge of the "Popular Library" of the Public Library, Cleveland, has made the interesting discovery in her study of display racks, that contrast in color of adjacent books makes each book individual and conspicuous, that monotony of form and color is not desirable and that new titles should be frequently introduced.

If a popular fiction rack stands near the first third of the fiction shelves, the circulation is very largely from the shelves in the neighborhood of the rack; the remedy is evidently to shift the rack to another position.

#### Library Meetings

**California**—About 300 librarians gathered in Alhambra, on February 15th, for the annual meeting of the Sixth district of the California library association. The meeting was called to order by Mrs Theodora R. Brewitt, in the auditorium of the public library, where she is librarian.

The morning session was opened by addresses of welcome by Mr James Stuart, president of the Alhambra city commission and by J. L. Davidson, president of the Alhambra library board. The state librarian, Mr Ferguson, was present and spoke of some recent national and state news of interest to librarians, as did Mr Perry of Los Angeles. After a brief business meeting, the program commenced with a paper on "What the small public library can do to serve the business man," by Louise Krause, of the H. M. Byllesby & Co., Chicago. She was followed by Artema Chapin, of the A. K. Smiley library of Redlands, who explained the charging system used there, which is the one devised by Miss Drake, now principal of the circulation department of the Los Angeles public library. After a general discussion of this and other new methods and devices, the meeting adjourned to the Woman's club house, where the members and visitors were guests of the Alhambra chamber of commerce for luncheon, the first speaker being its president, Judge W. E. Northrup, who was followed by Dr O. S. Barnum, president of the Alhambra community council, and Marguerite Cameron, of the Junior Red Cross, Pasadena.

Helen E. Haines was the first speaker of the afternoon giving a review of three biographies, John Keats by Sidney Colvin; Morley's Recollections; and A writer's recollections, by Mrs Humphry Ward; which were grouped under the title "Speculum vitae." Jeanette Drake spoke on "The personal element in library service," and Althea Warren, librarian of the San Diego public library, on "Reconstruction problems and their relation-

ship to the library." The meeting closed with an address by Mrs Gibson, member of the California commission on Immigration and housing, on "Americanization." An exhibit prepared by the faculty and students of the Los Angeles public library school illustrated her subject.

FRANCIS R. FOOTE,  
Secretary.

**Chicago**—At the recent annual meeting of the National Education Association, Department of superintendence, in Chicago, the school and college librarians held a conference on their library problems. A fine exhibit of books, bulletins, pictures, scrap books and lists was shown and explained by a group of librarians working under direction of Helen Babcock, of the Austin high school and Chicago public library.

There was some spirited discussion centering on the question asked by the National council of teachers of English as to what teachers can do to help along library work in schools. Miss Babcock asked the school librarians present to speak briefly of their work. O. S. Rice of the Wisconsin department of public instruction told of the new rule requiring school librarians in Wisconsin next year.

Two visiting teachers, Miss Sherman of the Parker school in Chicago and Miss Grandy of the Highland Park, Ill., high school, talked very helpfully on Browsing pro and con. They both seemed to think that browsing for high school pupils which goes no further than nibbling is not desirable and some supervision is better. These teachers had evidently been used to helpful librarians, as they were most complimentary. Mr Roden spoke briefly on the relation of the school library to the school and said that tho only 6 high schools out of Chicago's 20 had libraries, the libraries were appreciated and clamored for in the rest of the 20 schools. James F. Hosc of the Chicago normal college said he believes that we should get children where books are and books where children are. Evidently he agrees with Brander Matthews "that if

young people are only exposed to the contagion of literature some of them may catch it."

**Massachusetts**—The mid-winter meeting of the Massachusetts library club was held in Faneuil hall, Boston, on February 13.

Anna M. Bancroft talked briefly on child welfare work. Katharine P. Loring spoke on the topic, "The King's English and the librarian's." Her address appears in this issue of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., read the poem, "Great-heart," by Rudyard Kipling, dedicated to the memory of Theodore Roosevelt.

Henry N. Sanborn, librarian of the Bridgeport public library, gave an analysis of the growth and underlying ideas connected with the subject of "Standardization of library service."

The subject, "Pensions for librarians," was discussed briefly by Charles K. Bolton.

Mary E. Hall talked on "Organization of high school libraries," and urged librarians to visit schools and see what is needed. The report on "Standard equipment for high school libraries" was especially commended, and also at least one year of training for the librarian in charge of a high school library where there are 1,000 or more pupils.

At the afternoon session Walter B. Briggs reviewed some of the aspects of his year's library service in France, and of the achievements and splendid bearing of the American soldier. He told of his visit to Rudyard Kipling at his home in England and of his stoicism over his loss in the war and his interest in library war service.

Professor Albert Bushnell Hart then spoke on "The record of the war." After telling of the delays and restrictions which had hampered him in his work in foreign libraries, and paying a high tribute to Harvard college library, which he said was the most convenient of the large libraries of the world, he asked: "What are the presumptive records of the present war? One of the first necessities would be a resumé of the literature of

the war." He advised librarians to prepare a select bibliography which could be made up with provision for later additions. Professor Hart mentioned first the group of secondary books. These are necessarily sketchy and they provide little more than publically known facts. Then there are such books as Simond's, and the New York Times history of the war, which are written on a larger scale. Later facts, however, will cause considerable alterations in these books. The letters of soldiers will furnish exceedingly valuable testimony. They will not, however, possess as great a value as they did in the Civil war because no individual soldier can describe a battle, in the present war, except in a limited way. Volumes of reminiscences will provide some striking material but here, again, no individual soldier in these days has an opportunity to make extensive observations. Of prime importance will be the official records now being collected. Early in the war the United States appointed a Board of historiographers who have been busily employed in collecting all essential material. The reports from the central powers are not yet available. Sooner or later the government will provide an official history. Professor Hart declares emphatically that there could be no doubt that the Germans were thoroly beaten, and by saying that among the American troops actually engaged in battle the losses reached about 35 per cent, he showed that the American contribution towards securing this result had been an important one. Professor Hart spoke of the value of posters and he reminded librarians that this is the time to collect material of all kinds on the war, closing with a paraphrase of a saying which he said had already been consecrated on the battlefield, "Librarians, go to it."

FRANK H. WHITMORE,  
Recorder.

---

It is good to give the unfortunate a living; it is still better to raise them to a life worth living.

—HELEN KELLER.

#### Saturday Book conferences New England association of school libraries

"Another book list; and I know just what it will be like!" said a New York City high school girl to the teacher who spoke of a list soon to be out. Granted that the girl had some ground for her remark .... call to mind the dreary lists of our own impatient youth .... yet she must have recanted when she saw the list discussed by Mabel Williams at the February Book conference, for it is one of authors who live and think our thoughts and meet our problems. The selection was made by a committee of the New York association of teachers of English and its objects were "to introduce the pupil to the book of contemporary expression, exhilarating to the pupil and knitting his interests to those of the world outside the school room .... and to lead him to think of literature as a living thing, quite as alive and full of spirit as himself." Miss Williams confined her discussion to the fiction section, stating the types of pupils for whom the different books had been chosen and the reactions already obtained in reading clubs, for the list is so very recent that it has not yet been tried out in the class room.

"French books for young Americans," was the March topic, and the authority Mlle Marguerite Clément. She used as a basis for discussion her "Selected list of French books for libraries of high schools and normal schools," published in 1918, and gave most illuminating glimpses of the French authors and their relationship to children, classifying them as the great authors whose works were not intended for the young, but who had nevertheless, each one, written at least one book which could be enjoyed by children, and the authors of lesser ability, the class who write for children, who in spite of their shortcomings have produced some masterpieces of juvenile literature. Especially interesting and valuable were her comparisons of

the reading taste of the French and American children and her selection of books to suit the more mature mind of the French child and those to please the excitement-loving American youth. She urged that American schools follow the French custom of offering as prizes excellent editions of the best books as incentive to study and creative of good literary taste.

ANNA L. BATES,  
Secretary.

#### Interesting Things in Print

A weekly list of magazine articles or business books is furnished by the Public library to the Madison, Wis., Association of commerce for publication in its magazine, *Community Business*.

The Binghampton, N. Y., public library, with the help of Boy Scouts in the printing classes of both high school and night school, has printed a helpful list on Scouting.

Librarians who desire a list of books for the self-study of the Russian language will be able to secure one from the U. S. Bureau of education, without charge.

The reading list compiled by Mary Brown Humphrey, reference librarian of the State college of Washington, on the question of permanent government control in the operation of the railroads, is published in the college library bulletin for December.

*The Little Journal*, a chemistry house organ published by the Arthur D. Little, Inc., Cambridge, Mass., will please those who are interested in the new chemistry problems in modern industry. The firm offers to send it on request, without charge.

A new "Graded list of library books for the elementary and the intermediate schools," compiled by E. V. Andrews, reference librarian of the Michigan normal college at Ypsilanti, is a brief list made to answer the questions from former pupils of the normal school now working in little towns and villages.

"Bibliographical notes on some books about reconstruction," by Aksel G. S. Josephson of the John Crerar library, *Bulletin No. 2* of the Northwestern university law school is an expanded reprint of a descriptive list first published in three Chicago Swedish weeklies in October, 1918, and afterwards in English in *The City Club Bulletin*, Chicago.

"The White List" is a monthly contribution to the nation's business on some phase of business literature, made by the Newark, N. J., public library, and appearing in *The Nation's Business*, the journal of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America, published at Washington. The list recently issued covers "The investors library."

"Heroes of freedom—heroes of all lands," prepared by the California state commission of immigration, is really a handbook "designed to combat race and national prejudice, and to make, thru education and understanding, for national unity—it is a plan to aid teachers in their task of making worthy and broad-minded Americans." Marion Horton of the Los Angeles public library is responsible for the excellent bibliography.

The *Junior Museum News*, prepared by members of the Junior Museum club of Newark, N. J., to record the activities of the Animal, Bird, Fish, Insect, Mineral, Stamp and Botany clubs, is a new publication, the second number of which has just been issued. It will furnish many fine ideas for those who work with children's nature clubs and even for composition themes for children in the grades, as it contains interesting letters from Newark children. Other clubs will also be represented, such as Amateur photographers, Electrical, Literature, and a Boy Scout group, so there will be something for all.

**Library Schools**  
**California state library.**

The annual conference of the county librarians of California was held in Sacramento, February 8-11. During those days class work and afternoon practice work were suspended in order that the library school students might attend the meetings. Aside from questions of general administration, the dominant points of discussion were certification of librarians, coöperative cataloging, Americanization, library work with the returning soldier. During the meetings and at the reception and tea which the state library staff extended to the visitors, efforts were made to have each county librarian become personally acquainted with each student. After the close of the conference, class discussions were carried on, in which the students had an opportunity to talk over their impressions, and make their own connections between theory and practice.

Mildred Kellogg, '18, has resigned her position in the state library to accept a position as assistant in the Monterey county free library at Salinas.

**Carnegie library of Atlanta**

The course in children's work was given this year by Edna Whiteman, supervisor of story-telling of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, February 10-21. Twenty-four lectures were given on children's literature, story-telling and the administration of a children's department.

Chalmers Hadley, librarian of the Denver public library, spoke to the school on some phases of the work of the Denver library.

On February 14 the camp and hospital librarians for the southeast were assembled in conference at the Carnegie library and the class had the opportunity of hearing Caroline Webster from headquarters and others speak on the library war service.

Gertrude Stiles, supervisor of binding in the Cleveland public library, gave her regular course on the mending and binding of books from February 25-March 1.

Laura Hammond, librarian of the Georgia school of technology gave three lectures on the administration of a college library.

**Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh**

William Warner Bishop, President of the American Library Association and librarian of the University of Michigan, lectured to the School on "Books and manuscripts of the 15th century" and "Some problems of a university library."

Jessie Hayes White, professor of psychology, University of Pittsburgh, has been appointed to the staff of lecturers and is conducting a course in child psychology in the course in library work with children.

Another recent appointment to the staff of lecturers is Mrs Irene Farnham Conrad, acting head of the department of social work, Margaret Morrison Carnegie school. Mrs Conrad is giving a series of lectures on social agencies, required of students in the general library course and in the course in library work with children.

The annual visit of the school to other libraries will be made April 2-5. This will be followed by a week's recess and the third and last term of the school year will begin April 14.

Matilda Leffingwell Avery, L. S. '07-08, has been appointed assistant cataloger in the Bridgeport, Conn., public library.

Mary Brinsmade, L. S. '09-10, is serving as reconstruction aide in the base hospital, Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va.

Celia Florence Frost, special certificate '14, is substituting in the Minneapolis public library.

Ethel Kellow, certificate '12, has resigned a branch librarianship in the Brookline, Mass., public library, to take charge of the children's work in that library.

**Drexel Institute**

Sarah L. Howell, a Drexel graduate, has taken a position in the technical department of the Carnegie public library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Helen R. Shoemaker, Drexel '11, died at her home in Philadelphia on January 9, 1919, of pneumonia. Last fall Miss Shoemaker was granted leave of absence from her position as librarian of the Oak Lane branch of the Free public library of Philadelphia to enter war work at the Ordnance department in New York City.

**Los Angeles public library**

The regular work of the school was diversified by a number of special lectures

given during February. Althea Warren, librarian of the San Diego public library, spoke on Publicity methods that have proved successful there, and Mr Perry described the organization of the Los Angeles public library. Two successful booksellers completed Miss Haines' course in Publishing houses by lectures on their specialties. A. C. Read spoke on university presses, and C. C. Parker on the younger publishing houses.

After the lecture on Business libraries by Louise B. Krause of Chicago, the school was fortunate in visiting two unusual libraries in Los Angeles, at the Lasky Film corporation and at Krotona, the theosophical society, where the librarians have developed interesting adaptations of library technique for the needs of their patrons. The Hollywood library staff served luncheon after the inspection of the libraries and the motion picture plant, including glimpses of a village in France, a Japanese street and Douglas Fairbanks himself.

Other special lectures have been given by Mademoiselle Marfaing of the Lycee de Jeunes filles in Bordeaux on French women and the war; by Ruby Baughman, supervisor of the immigrant education in the Los Angeles city schools on Americanization, and by Milton J. Ferguson, state librarian, on The county library system in California.

#### New York public library

Two unusually interesting and valuable lectures grew out of the stay in New York of Lieutenant Seymour de Ricci, the French bibliographer, who is at present under assignment with the French educational mission, which has been inspecting educational institutions throughout the United States. In connection with the advanced courses he delivered an address on French book collectors and book collecting, this following a lecture on English and American collections by Henrietta Bartlett; while before the joint classes he discussed the European book-trade, covering conditions in Italy, Spain, pre-war Germany, Holland, France, Belgium and England.

Effie L. Power, head of the children's

department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, gave to the regular students, March 3-10, a series of ten hours on childrens' work and literature. Other recent lectures of interest have included one on "Periodicals" by F. W. Faxon, proprietor of the F. W. Faxon Co., Boston; one on "The place of the library in a democracy" by Lutie E. Stearns; one on "Libraries in institutions for defectives, delinquents and dependents" by Florence R. Curtis, assistant professor in the University of Illinois library school; and one on "Literary men and librarians of other days" by R. R. Bowker, editor of the *Library Journal*.

Mrs Rachel Rhoades Anderson, '16-17, formerly with the U. S. Employment service, is now assistant division agent for Civilian relief in the southern division of the American Red Cross.

Ellen Brown, '14-16, formerly assistant with the U. S. Food Administration for Virginia, is now associate editor of the *Business Digest*, New York City.

Philena Dickey, '14-16, who until February 1, was librarian for the U. S. Food Administration at Washington, has taken a position as librarian for the Section of Subject Matter, Savings division, War Loan Organization, U. S. Treasury department, Washington, D. C.

Ruth Edmonds, '17-18, has accepted a place with the Guaranty Trust Co., New York City.

Harriet MacPherson, '16-17, has left her position as assistant in the cataloging department of Columbia university, and is now assistant at the library of the McGraw Hill Book Co., New York City.

Clara Overton, '13-16, is on leave from her position as librarian of the White Plains (N. Y.) high school for the second half of the school year '18-19, and is librarian at General hospital 39, Long Beach, N. Y.

#### New York state library

A substantial addition to the collection of lantern slides of library buildings and library work has been made thru the courtesy of W. R. Eastman who has turned over to the school much material collected in his long study of library buildings. Mr Wyer has also secured slides showing the camp library service of the A. L. A. Photographs of the Denver branch libraries have been secured thru the kindness of Anna R. Phelps and Chalmers Hadley.

The vice director is acting as supervisor of the library work at the Watervliet arsenal and the Army Reserve depot at South Schenectady.

Verne Bowles, '14, has been temporarily on the staff of the Missouri library commission.

Earl W. Browning, '15-16, has been appointed librarian of the Jackson, Mich., public library.

Emily K. Colwell, B.L.S., '15, is assistant in the Brownsville branch of the Brooklyn public library.

Grace I. Dick, '15-16, is serving as temporary assistant in the California state library.

Mrs Sarah Scott Edwards, '15-16, is temporary in charge of the Bluffton, Ind., public library.

Mary E. Furbreck, B.L.S., '16, will leave the Forbes library to be assistant in the reference department of the New York public library.

Emily L. Gilfillan, '14-15, formerly of the Library of the Rockefeller Foundation, has gone to Pekin as librarian of the Union Medical college.

Helen James, '13-15, has leave of absence from the New York state library to be temporary assistant in the U. S. Debarcation hospital, No. 2, Fox Hills, Staten Island, N. Y. Her place is being filled by Martha W. Suter, B.L.S., '13, a former member of the staff.

Nathan R. Levin, B.L.S., '18, has returned from camp library service at Kelly Field, Tex., to take charge of the deposit department of the Chicago public library.

Martha Ott, '17-18, has been appointed librarian of the Franklin, Ind., public library.

Sgt Harold G. Russell, B.L.S., '17, has been discharged from the ordnance department of the U. S. Army to join the War Library Service Headquarters staff in Washington.

Robert E. Stauffer, '17-19, has been appointed first assistant in the accessions division of the reference department of the New York public library.

F. W. WALTER,  
Vice Director.

#### Pratt Institute

The annual luncheon of the Graduates' association was held March 1. The director and vice-director each spoke about some phases of the new world in which libraries and librarians find themselves. Mrs Herbert L. Pratt, who has been in France, talked very interestingly about the Y. W. C. A. The officers for 1919-20 are: president, Frank Place, Jr., assistant librarian of the Academy of Medi-

cine; vice-president, Mrs Flora de Gogorza, librarian of the Brownsville Children's branch of the Brooklyn public library; secretary, Florence A. Adams, librarian of the Polytechnic Preparatory Country Day school; treasurer, Marion H. Fiery of the children's department of the New York public library.

Dorothy Bemis, '16, of the Guaranty Trust Co., has been given two or three months leave of absence to organize the library and files of the National bank of Charleston, S. C.

May Morris, '17, has been made first assistant in the Southwark branch of the Philadelphia public library.

Cards have been received announcing the marriage of Grace A. Taylor, '17, to Ernest F. Willets.

Emma Rood, '12, librarian of the Carnegie library of Carnegie, Pa., has been put at the head of the book department of a large department store in Omaha, Neb. Miss Rood was recently in New York to purchase stock.

Adelaide Bowles Maltby, '00, librarian of the St. George branch of the New York public library, died after a brief illness on February 21. Mrs Maltby put into her work rare qualities of mind and spirit, poise, great good sense, executive ability, together with idealism, vision, and a truly democratic understanding of and sympathy with human life.

JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE,  
Vice-Director.

#### Simmons college

The March visiting lecturers were: Clarence D. Kingsley, supervisor of high schools of Massachusetts, on "High school libraries in relation to the objectives of education, as proposed by the Committee on reorganization of secondary education."

John A. Lowe, agent of the Massachusetts Free public library commission, an illustrated lecture on "Library war service, and the Camp Devens library."

Lutie E. Stearns, on "The Reading of the adolescent girl."

Mlle Marguerite Clément, on "The selection of French books for the library."

Other departments of the college gave valuable help. Dr Lefavour added to the course in Documents two lectures on "The State Constitution" and

"The City Charter." Anne Strong discussed "Books on public health nursing," and Mary B. Stocking gave a Budget study of the distribution of a librarian's individual income under present living conditions.

The school has had the opportunity of hearing J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., and Mme Breshkovsky.

Visits were made to the hospitable libraries of Providence and Camp Devens.

Next year Simmons students will have instruction in children's work under Miss Jordan of the Boston public library, with practical work in the children's rooms, and reciprocal privileges will be extended to members of the public library staff who may desire to attend some of the technical courses at Simmons.

There will also be a course in reference given at the library to members of its staff, in which the heads of the departments of the library and instructors of the library school will cooperate.

Helen C. Geddes, '07, librarian Second National bank, Boston, Mass.

Barbara Keith, '16, assistant public library, Utica, New York.

Margaret Sinclair, '16, order department, Boston public library, Boston, Mass.

#### Marriages

Henrietta Cattanach, '07, married to Christian Lantz on February 22, 1919.

Jean Longfellow, '12, married to Lieut True E. Makepeace, U. S. Medical corps, on September 28, 1918.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,  
Director.

#### Syracuse University

The special lectures the past month have been: Charles W. Bardeen of the Bardeen Publishing Co., Syracuse, N. Y., on "The publisher and the war"; Adeline B. Zachert, superintendent of library extension in the Rochester public library, on "Library work with children"; and Emma E. Kinne, Syracuse university library school '08, who is now in the Signal corps, Division of military aeronautics, on the many kinds of work now being done in Washington by the graduates of the school.

Addie Duprey, '16, is in the catalog de-

partment of the Naval war college at Newport, R. I.

Dorothy Foster, '18, is employed at the Halcomb Steel Co., Syracuse.

Esther Hughes, '16, is in the War department, Washington, D. C.

Ethel Kimball, '16, is in the library of the Department of agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Ruth Belden, '18, is assistant in the Buffalo public library.

Frances M. Benson, '18, is assistant in the Brooklyn public library.

Helen C. Bullock, '17, has resigned from the Tremont branch of the New York public library and is librarian at Lodi, Colorado.

Eleanor Church, '17, has been made librarian of the New York state college of Forestry, Syracuse University.

Vivien C. Diefenderfer, '17, has resigned from the Buffalo public library and is now librarian at Argo, Illinois.

Elizabeth French, '15, has been made librarian of the North Side branch of the Syracuse public library.

Lillian R. Gilbert, '08, who for ten years was in charge of the periodical room at Syracuse university library, has been made librarian at the Syracuse central high school.

#### University of Washington

Gertrude Andrus, superintendent of the children's department of the Seattle public library, will soon complete a series of ten lectures to the senior class on work with children.

Rosamond Frew, '18, has a position in the circulation department of the Seattle public library.

Pauline Giudici, '18, has resigned from the Medford, Ore., public library to accept a position as assistant in the Great Falls, Mont., public library.

Edith Monk, '18, has a position in the University branch library, Seattle.

Corine Ruttle, '17, resigned from the children's department of the Seattle public library to go to Yakima as assistant in the public library there.

Lillian Collins, '14, has returned to the Seattle public library from several month's service in the Ordnance department at Washington.

#### Marriages

Edith Wallace, '18, was married December 26th, to Ensign Hiram Bowen, of Mare Island, Cal.

Kathryn Stanton, '18, was married December 28th, to Ernest N. Patty of La Grande, Ore.

#### University of Wisconsin

Jessie B. Rittenhouse brought to the school her inspiring message on the new poetry in her lecture, "The poets as recorders of the war," with all her

knowledge of the poets themselves and a sympathetic reading of the poetry.

Barrie's "Admirable Crichton" was presented as a dramatic reading by a group of eleven.

After the lectures on Story-telling, by Mrs Thorne-Thompson, the study was continued under Miss Hazeltine's direction, including evaluation of the best aids, and with practice in the telling of stories.

Other lectures were Professor W. J. Chase on the "Bibliography of United States history"; Bernice Oehler, of the art department of the Madison high school, on "Aesthetic principles of poster bulletins"; and Mary A. Smith on "How to teach the use of the library in the 8th grade."

The annual publicity exhibition was conducted by the students.

Practical instruction in mending was given by Caroline C. Shaw (class of '15) librarian of the Public library, Marshfield, Wis.

Field practice was shortened to six weeks on account of the influenza, the period extending from February 15 to March 28.

Marjorie F. Carlton, '17, who held a war position in the Bureau of ordnance for a year, has left the service to accept the position as cataloger in the Racine, Wis., public library.

Winifred Gregory, '10, chief of the industrial arts department, St. Paul public library, has leave of absence for U. S. Hospital library service at Oteen, N. C.

Emma O. Hance, '17, chief of the order department of the Carnegie library of Washington, D. C., has leave of absence for U. S. Hospital library service at Camp A. A. Humphreys, Va.

Bettina Jackson, '10, is joint author with her sister, A. F. Jackson, of "How to select furnishings for the home," published by the *Good Furniture Magazine* of Grand Rapids.

Hazel Laing, '17, is now librarian of the Buhl, Minn., public library.

Marion E. Potts, '12, is at A.L.A. headquarters, Paris. Since June she has been a statistician for the shipping board at Washington, D. C.

Marie Pulling, '15, has resigned from the Buffalo public library to join the staff of the children's department of the St. Louis public library. She is now acting children's librarian at the Soulard branch.

Gertrude Schwab, '16, has a position in

the Superior, Wis., public library, resigning from the cataloging department of the Milwaukee public library.

Mae I. Stearns, '10, has leave of absence from the cataloging department of the Newberry library, Chicago, for U. S. Hospital library service at Fort Sheridan, Ill.

#### Summer schools

##### University of Illinois

Summer courses in both elementary and advanced library science will be given by the University of Illinois, beginning Tuesday, June 24.

The instructors will be Ethel Bond, John S. Cleavinger, Anne M. Boyd, Mrs Eva Cloud Taylor (one week), and two revisers.

A. Eight weeks in cataloging, reference work, and order, accession and shelf work, will be offered to college graduates who desire to prepare for librarianship. These three courses will occupy full time and are of the same character and grade as courses in the regular session. They will, therefore, be a convenience to college graduates who are employed in libraries and who find it impossible to attend the regular session. The same requirements for admission hold for these courses as for admission to the regular library school classes. Application blanks should be secured and mailed to the school before registration day.

B. The usual six weeks elementary summer course given for librarians and library assistants, especially those in Illinois libraries, will follow the same general outline as heretofore. This course is offered to help our own Illinois libraries to give the best service possible. Since the beginning of the summer library course in 1911, a total of 195 librarians and assistants has been enrolled, of whom 146 have been from Illinois libraries. In the summer of 1918, 30 students were in attendance, of whom 23 were from Illinois. Graduation from a high school is required for admission to this course.

A course intended primarily for high school teachers on the use of reference and other books which ought to be found in high school libraries, with

some instruction on the use of catalogs, will be offered this year.

**Simmons college**

The summer session of six weeks will be held July 7-August 15, open to all persons now in library positions who have had a high school education or its equivalent. High school teachers who have been assigned part time duty in their high school libraries are also eligible. Kindergarten teachers find the course in children's work profitable, and are admitted to that course without library experience.

Reference work and library economy, under Miss Florence Blunt, occupy the first three weeks.

Cataloging and classification fills the following three weeks, with Harriet Peck, librarian of the Rensselaer Polytechnic institute, again the instructor.

The course in children's work is separate, full time from July 7 to July 28. Alice Hazeltine, supervisor of children's work in the St. Louis public library, will conduct this course. Her experience both in Pittsburgh and St. Louis, where she gives the children's work in the library school of that library, qualifies her to make the course a helpful one.

Any one of the three courses may be taken separately, or Cataloging and Classification may be combined with either one of the courses that come in the first three weeks.

**Wisconsin**

The summer session, June 30 to August 8, is designed as usual to meet the needs of Wisconsin librarians and assistants already holding positions. Wisconsin librarians are urged to file their applications by May 15, that those desiring to enter from other states may have such opportunity.

Winifred Gregory, of the Public library, St. Paul, has compiled an extensive bibliography on the "Improvement of the upper Mississippi river," which is being issued serially in *The Bulletin* of the Affiliated engineering societies of Minnesota. This is an exceptionally thoro piece of work.

**The House of Brotherhood**

[Hymn of victory by Allan Eastman Cross, to be sung to the music of "The son of God goes forth to war."]

America, America,

The shouts of war shall cease;  
The Glory dawns! The day is come  
Of victory and peace!

And now upon a larger plan  
We'll build the common good,  
The temple of the love of man,  
The House of Brotherhood!

What though its stones were laid in tears,  
Its pillars red with wrong,  
Its walls shall rise through patient years  
To soaring spires of song!  
For on this house shall faith attend,  
With joy on airy wing,  
And flaming loyalty ascend  
To God, the only King!

America, America,

Ring out the glad refrain!  
Salute the Flag—salute the dead  
That have not died in vain!  
O Glory, Glory to thy plan  
To build the common good,  
The temple of the rights of man,  
The House of Brotherhood!

**Poems of Interest to Boys\***

Compiled by William R. Bolin, Englewood high school, Chicago.

Barbauld—Life.

Burns—A man's a man.

—Highland Mary.

—To a mouse.

Byron—She walks in beauty.

Campbell—Hohenlinden.

—Soldier's dream.

Coleridge—She is not fair.

Cunningham—A wet sheet and a flowing sea.

Douglas—Annie Laurie.

Jonson—Drink to me only with thine eyes.

Kingsley—Three fishers.

McRae—In Flanders' fields.

Moore—Oft in the stilly night.

Riley—That old sweetheart of mine.

Scott—Soldier rest.

Seeger—I have a rendezvous with death.

Southey—After Blenheim.

Stevenson—Requiem.

Tennyson—Break, break, break.

—Crossing the bar.

Waller—Go, lovely rose.

Wolfe—Burial of Sir John Moore.

Wordsworth—Lost love.

Anonymous—When the little boy ran away.

Author unknown—Reply to Flanders' fields.

\*Why not try them on the girls, too?

## Department of School Libraries

## Evolution of a High School Library

THE thrill of pioneer work has long passed for high school libraries, but for the individual high school library it will never pass as long as new high schools and new libraries are established.

It was a raw, windy day in April when I approached the new high school building, standing in the midst of mud, rocks, and piles of lumber which only the most vivid imagination could picture as green, refreshing lawn. As I opened the door, a blast of wind such as greets a wayfarer at a downtown entrance to the New York subway, on a winter's day, came rushing out to meet me. The school had been moved into the new building a week previous and then had adjourned for spring vacation. At the same time the heating apparatus had claimed its first vacation. As a consequence, all doors and windows were open to help dry out the "tons of water" which I was later assured were still in the walls.

A search through bleak rooms and bleaker corridors was at length rewarded by the discovery of the principal, who was placing schedules on the walls of a class room. He appeared smiling and happy in his work in spite of depressing conditions, maintaining the attitude of the true educator, ready to risk all, even health, in the cause of education. Could I, a worker of many years' standing in the "People's university," do less?

With the key to the book room, I started at once in quest of library books. Piled from floor to ceiling were books of all kinds and sizes in one conglomerate mass. To extricate the ones destined for the library seemed a formidable task to one unaccustomed to janitor work, but by the end of the afternoon many treasures had been rescued and the discovery made that, for manual labor, artificial heat is unnecessary. The next day, books were

assembled in the library and with numbering machine and typewriter, I set to work to accession, classify, and catalog my library. For the first few weeks I planned to give all my time to this work, and therefore great was my consternation to learn that for a time the library would have to be used as a study hall. As I soon discovered, students have a way of "trying out" a newcomer, be she teacher or librarian, and therefore cataloging took second place until I had given proof conclusive that librarians can maintain order as well as teachers. After that all went well, and while cataloging did not progress as rapidly as it might have done under more favorable circumstances, the opportunity of occasionally talking in an informal way to the students in the room about the library, more than offset the disadvantages of their constant presence.

We were able to secure at once a daily paper and a few magazines and these did much to make the library popular. Many of the students were from outlying districts without library advantages and the eagerness with which they seized upon the *Outlook* and *World's Work*, as well as *Popular Mechanics*, proved their appreciation.

In order to give the members of the graduating class some benefit from the library, we decided to give them a lesson in library methods and tools. They came in groups of 8 or 10 for a period, and we discussed indexes, classification, the use of magazines and pamphlets, and some of the guides for making reading selective instead of desultory. The lessons were followed by written tests, the results of which proved the value to the student of even this superficial instruction.

A few weeks of summer work gave the room the appearance of a real library, for by that time teachers' closets and remote corners had yielded over 1000 books and we had purchased a couple of hundred more. When

school assembled in the fall we were ready with books, catalog, pamphlet file, and the nucleus of a picture collection, for real work. As soon as the school had settled down and become adjusted to new conditions, we organized, through the English department, a course in library instruction, covering two periods of 40 minutes each, to include every student in the school. For the second lesson, students were required to know the ten main heads of the Dewey classification and to tell the three ways of finding a book through the catalog. They were also required to find answers to 12 or more assigned questions. The following list was given to a class of Freshmen of the second half year, with excellent results. Sources following questions show the scope of the first lesson as well as the limitations of the library. They were, of course, not given to students.

- 1 Find material on the Economic Policy toward Germany.  
Find material on Posters and their use in war time.  
Readers' guide.
- 2 Find an account of Clemenceau.  
Who's who, New international encyclopedia, Britannica, Readers' guide.
- 3 In what book was Rebecca Sharpe a character?  
Walsh, Heroes and heroines of fiction, Webster's New international dictionary, Century cyclopedia of names, New international encyclopedia.
- 4 Find a description of ball games among the ancient Greeks.  
Harpers' Dictionary of classical literature.
- 5 Find all you can about Thanksgiving day.  
Harper's Ency. of U. S. History, New international encyclopædia, World almanac, Pamphlet file, Catalog, for books on New England-Manners and customs, U. S. History.

- 6 Find an account of the effect of the war on high schools.  
American year book, Pamphlet file.
- 7 Compare the word Bridge in three dictionaries and note differences.  
Webster, Century, Students' standard.
- 8 Give the name of one book in this library you would like to read.
- 9 Find an article published in September telling of government need of platinum.  
Official bulletin, Readers' guide.
- 10 Find rules for displaying, hanging and saluting the American flag.  
World almanac.
- 11 Who said "There is nothing so powerful as Truth"?  
Bartlett, Familiar quotations, Benham, Book of quotations.
- 12 Has the library "Adrift on an icepan"? Who wrote it?  
Catalog.

Recitation followed the second day after the lecture and then for weeks, during which this work was in progress, the library was no place for a quiet reader. Students were hurrying from catalog to reference shelves, and from pamphlet file to magazine index, every free period of the day and long after school hours were over. Great emphasis was placed, each lesson period, on the use of the town library, and students were urged to try their newly acquired knowledge of library tools there and also make new discoveries among its wider range of reference books.

While it is too soon to tell what influence these lessons will have on the work and reading of these students, the fact that one or two classes who were overlooked in making out schedules for this work were clamorous for a library lesson shows the interest aroused. Teachers are enthusiastically following up the lessons with special topics requiring library use, assigning bibliographies, etc.

The Library has far to go before it becomes the heart and center of the

school, as every high school library should be. It has yet to develop a class of book-lovers, but in the five months of its existence it has entered into the life of the school and established its claim to a working place among the other school activities.

To one whose library experience has been limited to work in a public library, there is an immense satisfaction in giving, to even a small group, a working knowledge of the tools which make independent use of any library a pleasure and an incentive to selective reading. — JESSIE BRAINERD, librarian, High school, Hackensack, N. J.

#### A High School Library as a Vocational Aid

We are told that librarianship affords the greatest opportunities for service of any profession. In the fields of high school work the chance for service is tangible indeed.

The Lake View (Chicago) high school library staff is privileged in rendering one service which is particularly peculiar to high school library work. This is its opportunity to inspire and direct the girls of the school who have expressed an interest in library work.

We began two years ago with a library practice group of two girls and now enjoy a group of ten.

These girls report to the library one period each day and receive for the work 3/10 credit in their school curriculum. Juniors and seniors are eligible. The course is a four semester one, which includes shelving, filing, typing of shelf list and catalog cards, desk work, mounting of pictures and picture bulletin making. Definite reading of magazines is required and cultural reading assignments are made, for which the student writes booknotes. The close of the semester brings an examination of all the work covered during the semester.

Careful revision of all work results in perfect work, which justifies the expenditure of effort on our part. The

experience which these girls receive is of unmeasurable value in arousing in them a sense of responsibility and forming the habits necessary in their profession. The value to us from the service rendered far exceeds all other considerations, because of the inspiration we receive from guiding and helping the girls.

MARGARET E. ELY,  
Librarian.

#### A Constructive Handbook on High School Library Organization

The report of the Committee on library organization and equipment, Department of secondary education, National Education Association, thru its chairman, C. C. Certain has been adopted by the North central association and the Secondary department of the N. E. A., and it has been recently reprinted by the A. L. A.

This report puts into definite form the best thought of those who have studied high school libraries throughout the country, and the conclusions are based on a series of school library surveys made by the committee.

It affords a handbook of standards which may be used by superintendents and principals in presenting school library needs to boards of education, and it will enable them to submit a constructive program. When one knows exactly what one wants, and can approach a board with reasons, in nine cases out of ten the expenditure will be approved.

The report suggests a practical working standard for the junior high schools and the various sizes of senior high schools, with requisites of library organization specified for Housing and equipment; Qualifications of librarians; Scientific selection and care of books; Instruction in the use of books and libraries; and Annual appropriation.

Criticisms are invited by the chairman, Mr Certain, head of English department, Cass technical high school, Detroit, Michigan.

**Library Goops***(With apologies to Gelett Burgess)*

The Goops (you'll find some in this room)  
 Take little care of books.  
 They leave them on the tables  
 When they think that no one looks.

They never read a number  
 To find the *proper* place  
 But, carelessly, they poke their books  
 In any empty space.

They never use a shelf end  
 To stand books the rightful way,  
 And books continually rejoice  
 When far from here Goops stay.

—A. W. H.

The above rhyme has been posted on the bulletin board with some profit in the State Normal school, Newark, New Jersey. The librarian who wrote it believes that nonsense sometimes achieves results where more formal methods fail.

**For Book Lovers**

A select list of fine editions prepared by Margaret E. Ely, librarian of Lake View high school library, Chicago, for the recent meeting of National council of teachers of English, includes books chosen from the standpoint of availability, attractiveness and usableness. No edition has been listed unless its illustrations distinguish it from other well bound and perfectly usable editions. No title is included which was not personally seen by the compiler, and publishers and prices were verified to date.

A street car conductor asked a branch librarian on her way to work if she could get him something on the principles underlying the financial management of rental property, the proportion of income of rental which should go for repairs, the advisability of a lower rent with placing responsibility for repairs upon the tenant, reasonable net income to be expected, etc. He was interested in a real economic study, with a practical end in view, and it was something of a revelation, both to find that street car conductors owned property for rental purposes, and that they had such advanced views as to its management.

**News From the Field****.East**

Helen Pulsifer, senior assistant in the Somerville public library, has resigned to accept a business position.

Ethan Wilcox, one of the pioneer library workers in the United States, librarian emeritus of Westerly, Rhode Island, Memorial library, and president of Westerly historical society, died on February 14, after two years of failing health. His interest in library work dated from the early days of the old Pawcatuck library association, and from 1894 to 1908 as librarian he helped to make the library one of the most useful in the state, and rich in local historical material.

**Central Atlantic**

An attractive publication, well illustrated, of the Public library and museum association of Newark, N. J., tells the story of Colombia in a manner suited to young people but pleasant to anyone.

The trustees of the Brooklyn public library have adopted the drastic measure of transferring money from the book fund to the salary account in order to raise the pay of the library workers and to keep the libraries of the borough open.

An exhibit of material showing what is being considered in Pittsburgh in the way of municipal improvements, and what has been done in other cities, was opened to the public February 21, in the central building and all the branches of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

The exhibit comprises maps which show the proposed improvements in Pittsburgh, books on city planning, and a collection of photographs loaned by the Art commission of the city of Pittsburgh. The photographs are arranged progressively to illustrate city planning, municipal improvements and

housing, in the United States and in foreign countries.

In connection with the exhibit, the library has prepared and published for free distribution a pamphlet on "Some facts and opinions concerning public improvements."

Central

The late William J. Onahan, of Chicago, left a \$25,000 Irish library to Notre Dame university.

Margaret Fullerton of the State library at Columbus, Ohio, has accepted a place in the Lake division of the Red Cross at Cleveland.

Harriet Lane, librarian of the Public library, Freeport, Illinois, has been appointed librarian at Camp McClellan, Anniston, Alabama.

The county library fund at Monroe, Michigan, has lately been enriched by \$5,000 penal fines as a result of the enforcement of the prohibition law.

The Milwaukee Civil service commission has decreed that in the future the municipal reference librarian must be a man.

Bids have been asked for the new \$1,000,000 building for the John Crerar library, Chicago, to be constructed at Randolph and Michigan avenue.

Sarah Daniels, of the Public library, Harvey, Ill., has accepted the position of librarian in the High School of the same place.

Davenport, Iowa, has opened three new intermediate schools in which branch libraries will be established under the direction of the public library.

The Dwight Foster public library at Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, has received a gift of \$1000 from Mrs Mary E. Worcester of Chicago, daughter of the late H. E. Southwill, who made this library possible by a gift of \$10,000 a few years ago.

A bill has been recommended for passage in Minnesota providing for the issue of \$1,000,000 bonds for the erection of a new public library, which is also to house the Walker art collection.

A large collection of rare books, plays, histories of the stage, lives of playwrights, managers and actors has been added to the representative books in the William Vaughn Moody library of American literature, University of Chicago.

Herbert C. Collar, chief cataloger of the Grosvenor library, Buffalo, N. Y., died March 14. Mr Collar was a graduate of Dartmouth, '99, and New York state library school, '12. He was an able cataloger and very successful in the training of catalog assistants.

Theodore Thimlar, a well-known citizen of New Haven, Ind., has given a large lot for the purpose of erecting a library on the site. A movement for a Carnegie library is well under way and much interest has been manifested in the project.

Dr E. W. Weis, of Ottawa, Ill., has given his library of medical books, valued at not less than \$3000, to Ryburn Memorial hospital. The library will be of great assistance to the hospital, as the scarcity of funds in outfitting the new annex will prevent the trustees from spending such a sum on the new library.

Ethel F. McCollough, librarian at Evansville, Indiana, says the public library now serves 26,240 active patrons. She says no other department of the city government has direct dealings with nearly as many citizens. The circulation in January, 43,000 v., was 10,000 more than were circulated during January last year.

The engagement is announced of Caroline Burnite, director of children's work in the Cleveland public library,

to Robert R. Walker of Easton, Maryland. Miss Burnite will leave the Cleveland library July 1st with the good wishes of many friends in the library world.

The library of the Michigan college of mines invites the public to make more general use of its valuable technical reference collection. The library now contains 25,000 volumes and thousands of pamphlets. There are many graduates of technical colleges residing in the Copper Country who are welcome to use this library.

The marriage is announced of Cora Whittingham Todd, children's librarian at the Henry M. Utley branch library, Detroit, to John S. Cleavenger, until lately librarian at Jackson, Michigan. They will be at home to their friends in Urbana, Illinois, where Mr Cleavenger has joined the Library school faculty of the University of Illinois.

Earl W. Browning, librarian at Niagara Falls, and lately serving at Camp Custer, succeeds John S. Cleavenger at Jackson, Michigan, in charge of the public library. Mr Browning has had a varied experience in the library at Brown university; in the Providence Athenaeum; in the applied science department of the St. Louis public library, besides the other positions mentioned.

A collection of interesting documents, letters and books has been presented to the Public library at Columbus, Ohio, by Lida Rose McCabe, a former Columbus writer. Most interesting, perhaps, is a number of letters from the present Marquis de Lafayette and other members of the family, which were received by the writer while collecting material for her lectures and articles on Madame de Lafayette, wife of the Revolutionary hero.

For the third time the proposition of a Carnegie library building for Bay City, Mich., is being considered. This

matter was brought up 10 years ago and was dropped at that time. Another proposition was made in 1916 but before anything could be done about it war was declared and the Carnegie corporation stopped all library work for the time being. In order to carry out the plans of the Carnegie corporation, it would be necessary for Bay City to place its present libraries under one management. That does not mean the elimination of the Sage library on the West Side, but a consolidation of management which will do away with considerable expense of maintenance.

The Seven Corners branch of the Minneapolis public library has lately entertained at a library party 81 Russians, Bohemians, Jews, Austrians, Greeks, Scandinavians, Hungarians, Poles, Lithuanians, Letts, Czecho-Slovaks, in fact all the little group that met three times a week at the Jackson school to learn to talk the language of America and to get ready to become American citizens. The one negro guest said of the library, "Heah, ah feels just at home," and all the guests seemed to have greatly appreciated the hospitality on the part of Josephine McPike, librarian, and Ruth Ericson, her assistant. Anna W. Wright, principal of the Jackson night school, and the entire teaching corps, with William Ball, head of the public school Americanization work, were guests.

The Public library, Danville, Ill., reports the year 1918 the heaviest and most successful in the history of the library. The total gain in circulation was 11,000 over the previous year, due in large measure to the extra demand on account of the war. The total circulation from the main library was 91,000. Since the Oaklawn branch has been open during the afternoons on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, the circulation there has gone over the 12,000 mark. Most of this is due to the interest the families of the shop-

men take in the books. The depositories at the Douglas, Grant, McKinley, and Roselawn schools, each under the supervision of the library, have totaled another 12,000, which brought the grand total of the circulation up to 115,075.

#### South

Mobile, Alabama, is working for a \$150,000 memorial library building.

Five additional branch libraries are to be established in New Orleans.

Beaumont, Texas, has passed an ordinance providing for the establishment of a public library.

In Winston-Salem, N. C., the per capita circulation for the last year was 1½. The municipal expenditure was \$2840. For this sum 38,532 books were issued. The library hopes for an increased appropriation.

The cornerstone of the \$60,000 Washington library building in Macon, Georgia, was laid February 22. This building is the gift of Mrs E. W. Bellamy in memory of her brother, Hugh V. Washington, a descendant of George Washington.

John Fox, Jr., says he is amazed at the resources of the Public library of Louisville in material which he needs for surrounding his characters with a personal atmosphere. He has been in Louisville gathering material for his new story dealing with early Virginia and Kentucky history.

The Public library of Nashville, Tennessee, reports a vigorous year full of helpful war work. The powder plant population added a novel and cosmopolitan element to the library clientele, every nationality, occupation and trade being represented. The record of borrowers showing the varied occupations is exceedingly interesting.

The Public library of Memphis, Tenn., shows a wonderful story of progress and ever increasing service in spite of meager

revenue, which is entirely out of proportion to the volume of work done. Of the 609,127 v. issued last year, 234,340 were issued by the nine white branches and 43,058 v. by the two negro branches. The total gain in circulation for the year shows 48,570, a 9% gain over 1917.

Trotwood Moore, "the poet-laureate of the southland" as his friends love to call him, and who was lately appointed state librarian in Tennessee, is an example of the office going after the man, as Mr Moore was not an office seeker. He says he intends to promote the traveling libraries, because they mean more to the people of the state than anything in the department.

The most important acquisition made by the library at the University of North Carolina in recent years is that of the Stephen B. Weeks collection of North Caroliniana, 10,000 books, pamphlets, bound and unbound periodicals, bound and unbound newspapers, maps, reports of state officers, and state institutions, etc.

The library already had a very good collection of North Caroliniana and this addition makes it the finest in the country.

#### West

The Alfred Dickey public library, valued at \$30,000, has just been opened at Jamestown, North Dakota.

The county system of libraries is being urged in Utah. Mary Downey, state librarian, has prepared a statement for the legislature in support of such a bill. Utah has 36 towns with free libraries and 100 towns large enough to support libraries, still without them.

A library newspaper is the latest thing in the Public library at Boise, Idaho. The printing bill will be nil, most of it being done by the government. The many bulletins and articles of importance are posted on the bulletin board and the library patrons are